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JOINT ARAB LEAGUE-OAU COMMUNIQUE ISSUED 1 JUN

LD021456 Tunis TAP in English 1404 GMT 2 Jun 80

["Pool" item]

[Text] Tunis, June 6, (TAP)--A joint communique was issued Sunday at the Tunis-based Arab League following the working visit of Mr Edem Kodjo, the OAU's secretary general, from May 30 to June 1st. The two organizations' delegations, the communique (?says), examined the main problems facing the African and Arab states as well as the different aspects of the Afro-Arab cooperation. They praised the cooperation positive results since the Cairo Afro-Arab summit. [sentence as received]

Recognising the ultimate need of studying the Afro-Arab cooperation's structural means to ensure it more efficiency, both delegations agreed upon the holding of joint regular meetings between the African and Arab specialized technical bodies with a view to bringing about cooperation in specific programmes.

Regarding cooperation in the cultural field, the two parites agreed on promoting this aspect of bilateral relations through the means of setting-up a fund and research centre of Afro-Arab culture. The [word indistinct] in this regard, has been designed to work out a project in this regard and submit it to the forthcoming joint meeting.

In the economic cooperation, both delegations approved the proposal of holding in Kenya, Feb 1981, an economic conference of the African and Arab private enterprises' representatives.

The draft agreement on the creation of "an investment guarantee fund" to be presented at one of their joint sessions was also recommended by the Arab League-OAU delegations.

Both sides agreed also to coordinate the decisions of the Lagos African economic summit and that of the next Arab economic summit to be held in Amman view of establishing complementarity [as received] between the Arab and African strategies.

Finally both sides agreed on the principle of creating a "consultative permanent technical committee" composed of African and Arab specialized organizations and institutions, to be charged with carrying out the African-Arab cooperation programme. The general secretaries of both organizations expressed satisfaction at the friendly atmosphere in which talks took place and reaffirmed their common belief in cooperation between the two organizations, concludes the joint communique.

FATAH CONGRESS DISCUSSES MEMBERSHIP, POLICY, REORGANIZATION

LD020827 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 28 May 80 pp 1, 17

[AL-WATAN dispatch: "What Is Actually Happening at Fatah Congress; No Changes in Movement's Leadership"]

[Excerpts] Damascus--A senior Palestinian source told AL-WATAN yesterday that what is being published in the press about the Fatah movement's fourth congress is mere speculation and deduction.

The source added that none of the Fatah congress members, with the exception of the Central Committee members, had left the meeting place since they entered it last Thursday. Therefore, what is being published in the press is not accurate. Citing an example, the source said that a certain newspaper came out with a banner headline about the formation of a military general staff at a time when the congress was still discussing reports and had not yet proceeded to taking any decisions.

Regarding the report that the congress venue was changed as published by a certain newspaper, he said that the congress was originally scheduled to be held in Damascus and that the story of changing the venue is not true. He said that most of the speculations and deductions were based on some official reports disseminated by WAFA News Agency. It was learned that Yasir 'Arafat had personally drafted these reports.

Through a series of meetings with those persons who are following what is going on inside the Fatah congress, AL-WATAN has been able to piece together the following picture:

First, the congress began stormily. There were objections regarding the congress membership in that it was decided that the membership should be 480 but later was reduced to 380 following the decision to consider the representatives of the foreign regional areas as observers and not as members. But afterwards they were considered as active members. This has led to some Fatah Command members to propose the mebership of certain early Fatah cells. Discussion on this subject lasted a whole day, after which an official statement was issued confirming the congress membership.

Second, the main discussion inside the congress centered on the question of the movement's political activities and its role in the efforts for a settlement in the area. The debate of this point in particular was stormy. The Fatah congress seemed to totally reject the principle of a settlement.

Third, the Central Committee members expressed different views, which led the congress to ask to hear the views of every committee member on topics under discussion. But the committee held an extraordinary meeting after which it reentered the congress as a single team, which has enabled the congress to move from general debate to discussing the committees' work. Thus, the congress overcame a difficult stage.

Fourth, organizational matters have captured the interest of a large number of the congress members. The consensus view was that the organizational structure of the movement needs to be revised from top to bottom.

AL-WATAN has learned that the coming hours are the most critical in the congress' life because a new Central Committee will be elected. Despite all press speculations and deductions, no change is expected to take place in Fatah's command. All the present Central Committee members are expected to be returned in the election. The anticipated development is the incusion of anything between one to four new members in the committee.

PDFLP'S HAWATIMAH ALLEGES SAUDI, JORDANIAN, IRAQI AXIS

NC021157 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 31 May 80 p 9

[Interview granted by PDFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah to AS-SAFIR--place and date not given]

[Excerpt] Nayif Hawatimah, PDFLP secretary general, has stressed that foiling the Camp David accords was a necessary step in the struggle to defeat the U.S.-Zionist scheme. He once again condemned the five points raised by Khalid al-Hasan, a member of the Fatah Central Committee, before the European Parliament. Hawatimah affirmed that Yasir 'Arafat had in turn condemned "the plan which cannot be isolated from the overstated Western political solutions to Middle East questions."

Hawatimah called for escalating the armed struggle, which "remains the original basis upon which political and diplomatic achievements are determined." He accused Iraq of setting up an axis with the Saudi and Jordanian regimes and of opposing the progressive forces in the Arab arena. He called for an early meeting of the Palestine National Council to confront the post-26 May phase. He warned of Israeli sabotage operations, using unusual methods, against the Palestinian revolution. He regarded the first tangible steps in implementing the resolutions of the recent conference of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front as being more serious than what happened concerning the previous resolutions.

Regarding the convening of the Fatah congress, Hawatimah expressed the hope that the congress would resolve the three main issues dealing with joint action undertaken by all the groups of the revolution, and create a democratic spirit with regard to the relations among the groups in the resistance movement as well as within the revolutionary forces.

PLO CENTRAL COUNCIL TO MEET IN DAMASCUS 7 JUNE

JN032030 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Damascus--The PLO Central Council will hold a meeting in Damascus on Saturday under the chairmanship of Khalid al-Fahum, speaker of the Palestine National Council. The meeting will be attended by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The Palestine news agency says that the council will discuss the latest developments in the Palestine question on the Arab and international levels and the situation in the occupied territory in light of the Zionist enemy's savage onslaught on the Palestinian Arab people and their leadership in the occupied territory.

'ARAFAT MEETS WITH PALESTINIAN-LEBANESE COMMAND

NC040742 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 4 Jun 80

[Text] Last night the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and the general commander of the Palestinian revolution, brother Abu 'Ammar, chaired a meeting of the joint Palestinian-Lebanese command. The meeting dealt with the regrettable incidents that occurred between the Arab army of Lebanon and a unit of the Lebanese Army in Ar-Rumaylah and in Sidon.

The joint command studied reports by the joint forces' commander in southern Lebanon concerning these incidents in order to determine who was responsible. During the meeting it was agreed to resolve any issues that might lead to friction and clashes in this area.

VOP CARRIES COMMENT ON LEBANESE ARMY STATEMENT

NC040820 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0830 GMT 4 Jun 80

[Undated comment by the Palestinian revolution's responsible information source on statement by Lebanese Army command--read by announcer]

[Text] The Palestinian revolution's command was astonished to learn that the Palestinian revolutionary groups' name has been mentioned in connection with the incidents that occurred in the Sidon District yesterday. During these incidents the commander of the joint forces in the south was in continuous contact with Lebanese Army Lieutenant Colonel (at-Tablili). As a result of this cooperation, many lives were spared. Cooperation between the joint forces and the army officers in the south had been established in the past, and that cooperation continues to prevail. Hurling accusations against the Palestinian revolution's groups is an open attempt to undermine this cooperation which insures the common interests.

The joint forces intervened at the request of Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] command and the state's officials in order to halt these regrettable incidents. Therefore, the role of the joint forces was inherent in warding off and preventing the escalation of these incidents. Thus, we see no reason for involving the name of the Palestinian resistance in these incidents and regard this as a malicious deed against the common efforts aimed at guaranteeing Lebanon's security, well-being and independence and at preserving the Palestinian revolution.

The command of the Palestinian revolution wishes to explain that its full willingness to cooperate has cost it many martyrs and casualties who were fired on while attempting to end the clashes between the Arab army of Lebanon and the Lebanese Army. Despite the incriminating tone of the Lebanese Army's statement and its feeble attempt at instigating discord, the Palestinian revolution's command reaffirms its full willingness to cooperate in, among other things, the formation of a joint investigatory committee which would divulge its findings to the public in order to determine who was responsible and to enlighten the Lebanese public opinion on the extent of the joint forces' cooperation.

ARAB LEAGUE'S KLIBI PURSUES EUROPEAN CONTACTS ON PALESTINE

LD031445 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 2 Jun 80 p 3

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau report]

[Excerpts] Tunis--Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi will visit Federal Germany in early June. The visit, originally slated for 7 May, was postponed because of Marshal Tito's death, since Chancellor Schmidt and Klibi had to go to Yugoslavia to attend the funeral of the Yugoslav president.

Within the framework of his planned European tour to explain the reality of the Palestine issue and to urge the European states to play a part in finding a just and acceptable solution to it, the Arab League secretary general has already visited Switzerland and Italy.

Informed diplomatic sources in Tunis have stated that the Arab League secretary general's visit was one of his most successful to European capitals, despite the fact that it was the first official visit ever made to Switzerland by an Arab League secretary general. Since the league's establishment 35 years ago, no league secretary general was invited to visit this traditionally neutral country, which occupies an excellent position in Europe.

Diplomatic sources expect a meeting to take place between the PLO's Faruq Qaddumi and the Swiss foreign minister soon as a result of Klibi's visit to Bern.

PAPER PREDICTS ESCALATION OF ISRAELI-ARAB VIOLENCE

LD040859 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 3 Jun 80 p 5

["Rifan Nizam ad-Din article: "The Beginning of the Phase of Violence"]

[Excerpts] We do not know what President Carter, who is bragging of defending human rights, will say when he sees the blood and the dismembered bodies of the leaders of the afflicted West Bank and its people who are daily subjected to all kinds of maltreatment and terror. We do not think that the American President, who is engrossed in his selfish elections campaign, will flicker an eyelid over this new Israeli crime. The Zionists had committed scores of similar crimes and nobody moved to deter them or brandish a stick over them.

This new crime was committed only a few hours after Carter's strange warning to the Western European states and his threat to veto their initiative for peace in the Middle East should they declare it and should they attempt to obstruct the autonomy talks which, in any case, are deadlocked and doomed. Carter should have addressed his warning to Israel to force it to stop its terrorism and the implementation of the so-called "iron fist" policy as a result of which scores of Arabs have fallen victims and thousands of Arabs have experienced tragedies under the regime of curfew and through the use of the tools of oppression, tyranny, displacement and deportation.

Because Carter has not acted, he cannot absolve himself of his share of the responsibility for what occurred yesterday and what might occur tomorrow with Menahem Begin and his government, which is adept in the techniques of terrorism and bitter hatred. What has escaped the notice of these people, however, is the fact that what they have done is a doubled-edged weapon. Therefore, the circle of violence will ramify and escalate and become more serious because a crime cannot pass with impunity. The Israeli escalation must be countered by an Arab escalation. This is a dangerous game which will burn the fingers of everyone who obstructs the process of finding a comprehensive and just peace that will meet the demands of the Arabs and restore the full rights of the Palestinians. Signs of a storm are looming on the horizon. The next few days will witness important changes now that Israel has let the last olive branch drop and has chosen the weapon of future confrontation against the Arabs--all the Arabs.

FATAH LEADERS TO CONSIDER MEMBER DUTIES AT BEIRUT MEETING

NC031236 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1218 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Beirut, 3 June--Quoting well-informed Palestinian sources, the Lebanese newspaper AS-SAFIR today reports that the new 15-man leadership of Fatah will hold its first meeting during the next 48 hours in Beirut. The paper says that the foremost questions to be considered by the leadership will be the duties to be assigned to the new members and filling their former posts.

Meanwhile, AS-SAFIR says that Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman, chief editor of Palestine ATH-THAWRAH magazine, will be nominated to take charge of the unified Palestine information system. He will be replacing Majid Abu Sharar ah, who will assume organizational duties within the Fatah Central Committee.

KUWAIT

DER SPIEGEL INTERVIEWS FOREIGN MINISTER AS-SABAH

DW030725 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 2 Jun 80 pp 144-154

[Editor Adel S. Elias undated interview with Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah in the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Your Highness, Supreme Judge Khalkhali, the Robespierre of the Iranian Revolution, is instigating the Kuwaitis against their rulers: "The Gulf is Persian and not Arabic. We will export our Islamic revolution. The three islands in the Strait of Hormuz will remain in Iranian hands." The Soviet Army today stands no further than 500 kilometers from the Arabian Sea. The American Fleet patrols the Arabian Sea. Aren't the Kuwaitis beginning to leave their country?

As-Sabah: We are an inseparable part of this soil. No Kuwaiti thinks about leaving his country, regardless of what might happen. As regards my brother in Islam Khalkhali, I would say that he has not been quoted correctly. Our brothers in the Iranian Government have spoken differently. Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh during his last visit to Kuwait said that Iran is not considering claiming Bahrain or occupying it.

SPIEGEL: You speak of Khalkhali as your brother in Islam. Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh allegedly denied to you Khalkhali's statements. But he is obviously helpless vis-a-vis the ayatollah. Can you rely on his denials?

As-Sabah: To go strictly by the truth, Qotbzadeh did not expressly deny what Khalkhali had said. During his last visit to Kuwait we did not discuss that issue at all. But Qotbzadeh is the Iranian foreign minister, so he holds a higher position in the state than Khalkhali.

SPIEGEL: How about the three islands in the Strait of Hormuz?

As-Sabah: I must state in this connection that under the shah these islands were occupied militarily. That is an incontestable fact. So there is no conflict here. But I am convinced that some day when the situation in Iran has normalized we will come to an agreement with the Iranians on it the matter. As regards the name of the Gulf, we will not quarrel about that. Everybody can name the Gulf the way he wants to.

SPIEGEL: What do you say to the gigantic concentration of the two world powers in this area?

As-Sabah: I agree with my brother Khalkhali in this point. We do not need the American Fleet and the Soviet Army. We are in a position to defend ourselves and to protect the oil wells. I can assure the whole world that we are not interested in jeopardizing or stopping the oil supply. The oil wells will continue to gush, because we are interested in seeing that Europe is spared social and economic crisis.

SPIEGEL: Europe is alarmed by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. In contrast to say Saudi Arabia, you maintain diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. Please tell us what you think of the Soviet invasion.

As-Sabah: The principles of noninterference in the affairs of other countries is our supreme political commandment.

What the Soviet Union has done in Afghanistan we consider interference in the affairs of another country. It is a plain invasion. At the time I asked the Soviet ambassador to see me and I plainly outlined to him the opinion of my government. I asked him to tell his government immediately--and we stressed that in an official statement--that it should withdraw its army from Afghanistan.

SPIEGEL: And what did the Soviet ambassador tell you?

As-Sabah: Naturally, he used all kinds of excuses and arguments to justify the invasion, such as the excuse that it happened at the request of the government in Kabul. It is known, however, that he who allegedly asked for help was executed the next day.

SPIEGEL: What do you think was the real reason for the invasion?

As-Sabah: There are many interpretations. But I believe that the Soviet Union as a big power with 50 million Muslims carried out this invasion most of all because it feared the effects the Islamic revolution in Iran might have on the Islamic populace of the Soviet Union. In addition, the People's Republic of China plays a part in this connection. For us, however, it does not matter what the reason for the Soviet Union's action was. We cannot accept the fact that the Soviet Army has marched into Kabul.

SPIEGEL: What consequences have you drawn from this invasion for your country?

As-Sabah: We have learned a great lesson from it, namely that the big powers only pursue their own interests, and that brutually, friendships or friendly relations obviously do not matter. We would not be surprised if tomorrow or the day after tomorrow some other big power made a similar invasion. That is the law of violence and power.

SPIEGEL: President Carter has declared the Gulf region an area belonging to the American sphere of interests. Kuwait was the first country to reject this Carter doctrine. Why don't you like it?

As-Sabah: We are not an area of interests, neither for the East nor the West. With what right does Carter claim this area for himself? We are not in Chicago or Miami. We are independent states in this area which want to preserve their sovereignty and integrity. We have full rights to vote in the United Nations, just like the United States.

SPIEGEL: According to the statement, the Americans want to safeguard the oil supply with military means if need be....

As-Sabah: The Americans should not worry about oil supply. It is safeguarded, we guarantee that to all. Everybody in this world can obtain his share of oil.

SPIEGEL: Your neighbors obviously think differently about security in the region. Oman has signed military agreements with the United States, Bahrain also. The Americans were obviously able to refuel their planes there for the military action aimed at liberating the hostages in Tehran.

As-Sabah: I can speak here in the name of Bahrain. I assure you that Bahrain did not allow the American planes to refuel. Oman has also denied it. No plane operating against Iran was refueled or landed there.

SPIEGEL: But you don't contest the existence of military agreements between Bahrain and Oman, on the one side, and the United States on the other do you?

As-Sabah: You know, Oman has its own policy in this respect. I do not want to interfere there. Following the military action by the Americans in Iran Oman officially denied that American planes landed in Oman or started from there, and I can tell you that Oman now has in mind annulling the agreements with the United States. We in Kuwait at any rate will not give the Americans permission to land and we will offer no military cooperation.

SPIEGEL: The Strait of Hormuz is of vital importance for the whole world. An oil tanker passes through there every 8 minutes. More than half of the oil needed by Europe goes through that strait as well as 90 percent of the oil needed by the Japanese. Don't you consider that connection as being endangered since the Soviet Army is standing in Kabul?

As-Sabah: Stop. You are depicting the Soviet Union here as a terrifying villain for the Gulf region...

SPIEGEL: It need not be a villain to produce a threat.

As-Sabah: By closing the Strait of Hormuz the Soviet Union would also block the oil supply to its own allies. The Soviet Union knows it and so does the whole world. The West should not act crazy and try to frighten us with this villain. Could you tell me what interest the Soviet Union could have in closing the Strait of Hormuz? I am addressing the question through DER SPIEGEL to the Western world.

SPIEGEL: We do not speak of a closure of the Strait of Hormuz by the Soviet Union, but of the fact that the Soviet Union could bring the Strait under its control.

As-Sabah: How should the Soviet Union bring the Strait under its control? Is the region without a master? For whom is the Soviet Union supposed to conquer this region? What is the Soviet Union supposed to do with this gigantic oil production if it were at all in a position to control this area? Those who have some brains and sense in their heads know that these insinuations are fairy tales.

SPIEGEL: Where do you get that security? Are the Gulf states militarily at all in a position to safeguard the passage of the oil tankers through the Strait? Can Kuwait and its allies protect the Strait militarily?

As-Sabah: Against whom should I protect this Strait if nobody threatens to close it or bring it under his control? My security lies in warding off every outward political interference.

SPIEGEL: Qotbzadeh stated that Iran would mine the Strait of Hormuz if the American fleet were to block the Iranian ports. What would Kuwait do in such a case?

As-Sabah: Officially I know nothing about that and I do not believe that such an escalation will take place. In such a case the world would not look on inactively, regardless of who did it. The Strait of Hormuz, as we have stated, is the lifeline of the world. Our Arab brothers would not accept it either.

SPIEGEL: Once again, what would you do if it happened?

As-Sabah: We should not paint the devil on the wall.

SPIEGEL: The United States and its allies are imposing an economic boycott against Iran. The West expects a pro-Western country such as Kuwait to take part in the boycott. Will Kuwait live up to these expectations?

As-Sabah: The lackeys of America or the Soviet Union can be asked this question. But I am not a lackey of the Americans. The United States cannot give me any order and I do not follow them. One must differentiate between the taking of hostages as such and the Iranian people. The whole world should know that we are against the taking of hostages. But simultaneously, we are also against an economic boycott which would hit the Muslim people in Iran.

SPIEGEL: Kuwait has also not approved of the American military action aimed at the liberation of the hostages. Why not?

As-Sabah: We will never agree to military action against a Muslim country. If a country has to settle something with another country, there is a language called diplomacy. We feel with the American people as regards the taking of hostages, but simultaneously, we are very sad and insulted when we see President Carter send a telegram of condolence to Begin, while there are dead and wounded every day in Palestine, and the President of the United States does not lift a finger in this respect. I hope that the world will realize that we cannot muster understanding for this policy of Jimmy Carter. Are only the Israelis human beings and we are not? The Americans are making a great mistake here.

SPIEGEL: It is true that the Americans have made many and serious mistakes in this region already. What is your attitude toward the United States anyway?

As-Sabah: Oh well, you know, with the Americans it is a strange story. They blame us for having relations with communist states. And we hold it against the United States that it refuses to recognize the PLO. But I hope that a change similar to the one we are seeing take place in Europe just now will also take place in the United States. The Palestinian people were expelled and may well induce the entire region to adopt a hostile attitude toward the United States. Is this in the interest of the United States? Jimmy Carter ought to think about that.

SPIEGEL: Carter claims that he has not met a single Arab statesman who really wants an independent state of Palestine.

As-Sabah: By Allah, Carter should hear me now: We demand that an independent Palestinian state under a Palestinian flag exist. Politics is confusing. First he voted against Israel at the meeting of the Security Council, then he asked Israel's pardon and promised to be good. This is sad and ridiculous at the same time.

SPIEGEL: The United States is still far from recognizing the right to a Palestinian state. In the meantime you are seeking to cooperate more closely with the Europeans. What do you anticipate from that?

As-Sabah: We are interested in a strong Europe. Any European ought to know and be convinced that we are not interested in weakening their continent. We ought to sit down together and negotiate on the option of forming a front.

SPIEGEL: A front? An alliance against whom and with whom?

As-Sabah: A front against nobody. What we want is to achieve a comprehensive European-Arab cooperation in the economic and political fields. But we have found in the meantime that the Europeans want to discuss all sorts of things while setting aside political issue such as the Palestinian issue. The principal European concern is insuring the crude oil supply. By Allah, you just cannot separate politics from economics. At every meeting with the Europeans the first question that crops up is whether the oil prices will remain stable. After all, we do not increase crude oil prices just because we like to do so....

SPIEGEL: Why else would you do it?

As-Sabah: Please tell all Europeans that it is not our interest to increase crude oil prices. We desire nothing less than stable crude oil prices. But if the industrial countries constantly increase the prices of their finished products, I am forced to hike my prices as well, because I urgently need these products.

SPIEGEL: Kuwait has cut back its crude oil production by 25 percent; is this an advance warning to the West that your country might use crude oil as a weapon against Israel?

As-Sabah: We do not want to use crude oil as a weapon. I hope that the world will acknowledge this. But we might find ourselves compelled some day to do so after all. Our policy of cutting back crude oil production is neither an advance warning nor a threat; we prefer to leave some energy over for following generations.

The world is living off the fat of the land, as far as the consumption of energy is concerned. If I were to let oil production run freely now, I could maintain this pace at best for 40 or 50 years. I cannot take the responsibility for this as it would mean squandering. The coming generations would curse me for doing that. This is the reason for our new oil policy.

SPIEGEL: People in the West have been noting with concern lately that the crude oil countries invest less oil money in the West than before. Are you taking precautions because Washington has confiscated the Iranian deposits in the United States?

As-Sabah: Most of the oil funds have been invested in the United States. I wish very much that the Europeans would offer us more options for investing in Europe. Then I would withdraw a large part of my investments from the United States and invest the money in Europe.

SPIEGEL: Do you plan to buy into other German companies in addition to Mercedes?

As-Sabah: Honestly speaking, after the American measures, we are seriously pondering the question of where to invest our funds. We are examining this question quite seriously, because what the Americans have done with Iran naturally alarmed us. It is illegal. We are seriously examining the question as to what ought to be done, but we have not yet made a decision.

SPIEGEL: Do you have any countermeasures in mind to punish the United States, say, by no longer accepting the U.S. dollar alone for crude oil?

As-Sabah: It is up to the OPEC countries to decide on this matter. They will take everything into consideration that has happened during the past several months.

SPIEGEL: Some scientists contend that if Kuwait were to decide not to sell another liter of oil, it could live on the interest alone. Is this true?

As-Sabah: Oh no. By Allah, this would be exaggerated. We have Arab and international commitments by which we must abide. Besides, we have adopted a new law to protect future generations. Under this law we are obligated to invest 10 percent of our national income each year in a fund which may be used only for the next generation.

SPIEGEL: Now then, there are some other dangers to your next generation which have nothing to do with the waste of oil by the West. Iraq claims all of Kuwait as part of its territory.

As-Sabah: No, Iraq ceased long ago to claim all of Kuwait. All we have are border quarrels with Iraq, and something like that happens between nearly all countries. Besides, we are not cooperating closely economically and politically.

SPIEGEL: You moved closer together out of fear of the Islamic revolution in Iran, because Shi'ite minorities exist in both countries which might perhaps wish to emulate Khomeyni's example.

As-Sabah: We have never thought about Shi'ites and Sunnies living in our country. All of us are Muslims.

SPIEGEL: But if we walk the streets of Kuwait or visit mosques we run across Khomeyni pictures everywhere. The "Voice of the Islamic Revolution" from Radio Tehran in Arabic constantly calls for an uprising against the rulers in this area. Do you believe that Kuwait will be spared this in the long run?

As-Sabah: This country has a constitution guaranteeing everyone the opportunity to voice their own opinion. So if you saw pictures of Khomeyni in our streets, then this is not surprising. Anybody who likes Khomeyni may hang up his picture. Our citizens also listen to many foreign radio stations, but we rely on their self-awareness and their reason.

SPIEGEL: Listening to you might induce us to believe that no problems exist between Kuwait and Iran. Who was it that tried to assassinate Qotbzadeh in Kuwait recently?

As-Sabah: I repeat my profound regret about what happened to the Iranian foreign minister here, because our country is safe. We have never seen anything like this before. Our police investigations have not yet been concluded. This is why I cannot say who instigated this.

SPIEGEL: Your country is situated between hammer and anvil, between Iraq and Iran. You do not want to offend either. Was it not Iraq that was behind this attempt on Qotbzadeh's life?

As-Sabah: Not under any circumstances would I want to accuse anybody of having been behind this attempt.

SPIEGEL: Fifty-nine percent of the people of Kuwait are foreigners, above all Palestinians and Shi'ites of Iranian origin. You, the Kuwaitis, account for only 41 percent of the population...

As-Sabah: We do not regard our Shi'ite fellow citizens as Shi'ites of Iranian descent. We are quite grateful to our foreign fellow citizens for their performance and for their zeal in improving this country. All of us live here like a big family.

SPIEGEL: The oil wealth has started gigantic economic and social developments; this will not proceed without friction in the long run. Will you convert your conservative family rule into a constitutional monarchy?

As-Sabah: Destiny has chosen me and my family to be responsible for this country. We will accept any decision, any law, that our people make.

SPIEGEL: In that case, you will have have an easy stand....

As-Sabah: We are not afraid of democracy. In this country we have a free press which criticizes us without mercy.

SPIEGEL: Political scientist Abdallah an-Nafisi charges that in truth the family rule has remained unchanged. Your family, he says, rules your subjects like a herd of sheep.

As-Sabah: Herds of sheep are not governed by human beings but by their own kind. We have never treated our people in the way An-Nafisi says we have. Neither I nor my family regard the country as our property. The members of the reigning dynasty draw their monthly salaries just like any other responsible person, and not a dime more. An-Nafisi, by the way, may criticize us and still live as a lecturer at London University with a Kuwaiti passport. This is our democracy, and this is what will remain.

SPIEGEL: Your Highness, thank you for this interview.

OIL MINISTER RETURNS HOME FROM BAHRAIN

LD301826 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 May 80

[Text] Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah returned to Kuwait this afternoon from Manama, at the end of a 2-day visit to Bahrain, during which he attended meetings of the general assembly of the Bahraini-Kuwaiti company for petrochemical industries.

He told the Kuwaiti News Agency that an agreement was signed raising the company's capital from 57 to 60 million Bahraini dinars. The company, he added, has been renamed. It is now called the Gulf Company for Petrochemical Industries, following Saudi Arabia's joining the company alongside Bahrain and Kuwait. The company's shares are equally divided among the three countries.

He expressed confidence that the company will be able to provide the world market with ammonia and methanol. On his return, the minister was accompanied by 'Abd al-Baqim Nuri, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Kuwaiti petrochemical industry company.

SAUDI ARABIA

INFORMATION MINISTER VIEWS RELATIONS WITH U.S.

LD031325 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 2-8 Jun pp 22, 23

[Interview granted by Saudi Minister of Information Shaykh Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani to Rafiq Khalil al-Ma'luf in Washington--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Can you explain what is being said in the United States about Prince Fahd's interview with the Washington POST regarding the Middle East?

[Answer] In fact, Prince Fahd has dotted the i's and crossed the t's. His statement has clarified the kingdom's stand which was declared long ago. There is no change in the Saudi stand. Prince Fahd's statement is the very same Saudi stand which we often declared before, namely that we believe in just peace on the basis of giving the Palestinians their full rights, including the right to establish their independent state, the restoration of the territories occupied in 1967, and the return of Jerusalem to its normal position. [as published]

[Question] The Washington POST spoke of a new Saudi initiative. Is there a new initiative?

[Answer] I believe that what has been published was a new understanding of Saudi initiatives. There is no new Saudi initiative. We wish that our words had been understood long before but it appears that they are now finding a receptive ear--which is a correct and new understanding of earlier Saudi initiatives.

[Question] What are Saudi Arabia's views of the Camp David accords on the basis of Prince Fahd's statements?

[Answer] Prince Fahd said that we have explained our stand on this matter and we believe that the Camp David accords did not achieve just peace in the area because unless the opinion of the people primarily concerned in the problem is taken into consideration in any solution and the Palestinian people's rights are not disregarded, no solution is complete and cannot lead to peace since the Palestine problem is the crux of the matter. As Prince Fahd said, despite our differences in views we believe that President as-Sadat has done everything possible. In fact, the Egyptian president is in an awkward situation because he realizes that what the Arabs said before is true and that the Israelis are not willing to go along with solutions right to the end. They want solutions that suit them and which will achieve security and peace for them and enable them to achieve what they want. Once they get what they want they go back [on agreements] which is what they are doing now. They want temporary solutions and partial solutions but they evade whatever is supposed to lead to a lasting solution.

[Question] Do you believe that the United States should take a new initiative that goes beyond the Camp David framework, particularly since the autonomy talks failed to reach agreement on 26 May?

[Answer] We believe that we must go back to the solutions proposed earlier, including the Geneva conference. We also believe that the United States should not only take initiatives but also should back such initiatives both in words and deeds. The other side should feel that pressure is being brought to bear on it and should respond to solutions. The Israelis are, of course, known to go back on promises and obligations any time they wish.

They have never proved to be trustworthy or to have a sincere desire for peaceful solutions. They want peace at the expense of the Arabs and Palestinians. They want peace on the basis that the Palestinians should remain in their camps and be dispersed around the world. When a solution to the problem is proposed on the basis of the return of the Palestinians to their homeland, the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and the restoration of the Palestinian people's right in full, they reject all this.

[Question] What are Saudi Arabia's views on what is known as "the European initiative"?

[Answer] The kingdom's stand on this matter has not yet been declared but I can say here that we will not dictate any solutions to the Palestinians or anybody else. We will wait until the parties concerned understand the problem and give their views on it before we give our view on what we believe would achieve the Palestinian people's basic rights.

[Question] How do you evaluate the Saudi-U.S. relations?

[Answer] I believe that Saudi-U.S. relations are by tradition friendly. These are good relations, expressing our mutual interests, and we are anxious to utilize these relations in serving the Arab problems and the economic problems in general.

However, the United States has utterly failed to make the Israelis accept a just solution for the Palestinian problem. Even some Americans now admit this and realize that their inability to bring pressure to bear on Israel in order to make it accept just solutions is the cause of all the complications in the area, particularly since the Israelis feel that they accept what they want and reject what they do not want at any time they wish. All the pressure is usually brought to bear on the Arab countries.

The United States has failed to bring sufficient pressure to bear on Israel in order to make it accept just solutions. Unless it adopts a firm stand on this matter and forces Israel to accept just solutions it will be unable to act because the Israelis are continuing with their tricks and are seeking to gain time. Obviously if this continues, it will one day lead to a major catastrophe because frustration and anger is building up among the Palestinians and the Arabs who daily see their rights being lost.

Nobody is asking that Israel be thrown into the sea but we are demanding equal rights for the Palestinians to establish a state of their own and to return to their homeland.

[Question] A study made by the Congress into oil in the eighties found that it is difficult to separate oil from politics. How far, in your view, does Saudi Arabia reconcile oil and politics in its relations with the West, particularly the United States?

[Answer] I believe that oil is governed by many basic considerations with regard to production and prices and it has its own conditions and laws. OPEC is the organization that controls these vital issues that concern oil. Saudi Arabia is committed to OPEC decisions and is anxious to honor such commitments. Therefore, with regard to production, pricing and other decisions, these are dealt with in the light of economic, technological and technical factors. But I can say that nobody can claim that oil can be separated from politics. We do not say that we will use oil as a weapon but we do say we cannot separate oil from politics just as we cannot separate oil from economics.

[Question] There is much talk about Gulf security. The Western countries speak about defending the Gulf and the need to protect it. What are, in your view, the dangers threatening the Gulf and is Israel one of these dangers?

[Answer] The Gulf is secure. There is nothing at present that makes us feel concerned about the future of the Gulf. The Gulf is secure and assured. Its peoples do all they can within the framework of their relations with one another and within their means in order to safeguard their internal and external conditions. There is nothing about Gulf security that gives rise to anxiety. But certainly Israel is a danger not only to the Arab states and the Gulf but also to the whole world because an inflamed situation such as the one existing in the area is likely to create all sorts of problems and developments because the Israelis have shown that they always exploit every possible opportunity to increase tension in the area. Israel thinks only of its own interests.

All those who speak about dangers in the Gulf are talking about imaginery things and not reality or, rather, they are expressing their wish that the area will become an area of anxiety and fear.

[Question] What about the Soviet danger which is much talked about in the West?

[Answer] The Soviet danger exists in any case. This is evident in the situation in Afghanistan which was swallowed up overnight before the eyes of the whole world, particularly the free world which claims that it tolerates no such violation. The Soviet danger exists and it existed before. The real danger that we are facing now and which is threatening the area is the indifference of the West and its failure to face up to its responsibility vis-a-vis the communist tide as well as its tolerance of this communist danger. This makes some people accuse the West of conniving with the Soviet Union and makes them believe that the West has become weak and therefore unable to confront the Soviet Union.

This is the real danger because unless the West adopts a bold and correct stand in the face of this dangerous Soviet move, the danger becomes serious. This is because the Soviets have begun to believe that they can advance since the Afghanistan experiment has created in them the feeling that they can attack any country at any time with no justification whatsoever.

[Question] What is your assessment of the Saudi relations with Iran?

[Answer] Our relations with Iran are very normal. Iran is an Islamic country and our relations with it are very strong. We have never been in the habit of interfering in the internal affairs of any country. We believe that every country has the right to chose the system it wants. Therefore, no friction has occurred between the kingdom and Iran or between the kingdom and any of its neighbors. We respect our relations with them--neighborly and profound Islamic relations.

[Question] What about the relations between Saudi Arabia and the two Yemens?

[Answer] We aspire for good relations with our neighbors and are eager to build bridges of normal relations with them. Regarding our relations with the two Yemens, we are keen on maintaining our good, strong and normal relations with them. As far as north Yemen is concerned, there are many channels of communications through which the kingdom maintains strong relations based on constructive cooperation and mutual respect between the two countries.

As for South Yemen, we are keen on maintaining good normal relations based on mutual respect with it. King Khalid has invited President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to visit the kingdom. The date of the visit will be fixed any time now. The visit will have an effect on strengthening the relations between the two countries.

[Question] According to information published in U.S. newspapers, Washington is to revert to the policy of storing strategic oil reserves. Saudi Arabia is known to oppose a return to oil stockpiling. Can you explain this matter?

[Answer] We have always said that our oil policy is governed by important factors. We produce oil in order to fund the country's development programs and to achieve comfort and prosperity for the citizens. We have a responsibility inside OPEC and we have an international responsibility to keep the prices at a level that will not exacerbate problems, particularly in the developing countries. We have discharged our responsibility in this respect very carefully. I must say, however, that we also have a responsibility toward the future generations. We believe that it is not in our interest to produce oil in excess of our needs so that it can be stockpiled by others without any justification.

We increase production in order to maintain prices and the stability of the world oil market. We have done our duty faithfully and honorably. But there is no doubt that we do not accept a situation whereby our country should produce oil so that it can be stockpiled at the other end. We have clarified this point very frankly, bearing in mind that we do not interfere in the internal affairs of any country, including the United States, which would make them resort to storing oil. We will not serve such an interest anyway.

[Question] It has been reported that Saudi Arabia is to increase its oil production capabilities. Is that true?

[Answer] That is not true. We have announced that our production will be 9.5 million barrels daily for 3 months. We will make a decision in this respect every 3 months. We make a new decision, our policy will remain as announced. Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states are anxious to maintain moderate oil prices. Saudi Arabia moves carefully and wisely on oil and political issues, especially on oil issues because they are sensitive. I believe that we and the other Arab states in the Gulf have succeeded in being moderate within the framework of OPEC and this is in our mutual interest.

U.S., ISRAELI ENVOYS GIVEN PROTEST ON ATTACK ON MAYORS

NC031402 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1346 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Cairo, 3 June--This morning the Foreign Ministry summoned the ambassadors of the United States and Israel. The ministry's first under secretary, Dr Usamah al-Baz, received the U.S. ambassador, Alfred Atherton, and explained to him Egypt's position on the savage attack to which the mayors of Nabulus and Ramallah were subjected and handed him the text of the statement that the Foreign Ministry issued in this respect.

The Foreign Ministry's under secretary, Ambassador Salah ash-Sha'rawi, recieved the Israeli ambassador, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, and explained to him Egypt's condemnation of the barbaric attack to which the two mayors were subjected and its insistence on the need to end the Israeli occuption and put a stop to the terrorist practices by the military government. The Foreign Ministry under secretary also underlined Egypt's position on the following:

1. The invalidity of the Israeli settlements policy.

2. Egypt's rejection of the Israeli actions and statements regarding the occupied territory in general and Arab Jerusalem in particular. Ambassador ash-Sha'rawi emphasized to the Israeli ambassador that Israel must bear responsibility for punishing the Israeli terrorist group which committed the abominable crime and for respecting international agreements.

The Foreign Ministry under secretary explained to the Israeli ambassador that it is necessary to speed up the establishment of full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza sector to enable the Palestinian people to assume control of their affairs, including security in the West Bank and Gaza, and to pave the way toward a just solution to the Palestinian question.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY DENOUNCES ATTACK ON WEST BANK MAYORS

NC032118 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2023 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Cairo, 3 June--The People's Assembly has condemned the criminal Israeli attack against the mayors of Nabulus and Ramallah. At a special session tonight the assembly emphasized that what is happening in the West Bank now is a regrettable and painful result of Israel's continued implementation of its settlements and expansionist policies. The assembly appealed to world states to condemn this treacherous attack.

Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah delivered a statement on behalf of the committee in which he said that the committee has been following with much interest and pain the events that have taken place in the West Bank. He added that the committee condemns this criminal and treacherous attack and declares to the world that it is a regrettable and painful result of Israel's continuation of its settlements and expansionist policies. He described the recent Israeli attack as a blatant aggression against the UN and Security Council's resolution regarding Palestinian rights and a violation of the provisions of the Camp David agreements and the peace treaty.

The chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee added that the committee supports the government's view that the Palestinian question is the crux of the problem and that the committee stresses the right of the Palestinian people to full autonomy. The committee, he added, demands the adoption of decisive measures against the extremist Israeli groups and appeals to world opinion to condemn this treacherous aggression against the Palestinian leaders and to cooperate with Egypt in its efforts to establish peace.

Minister of State for People's Assembly Affairs Counsellor Hilmi 'Abd al-Akhir then spoke, saying: The Egyptian Government has been following with much anxiety and extreme attention yesterday's criminal attack against the mayors of Nabulus and Ramallah. If anything, this abominable crime indicates the Israeli Government's inability to maintain security in the West Bank and Gaza sector. Moreover, it greatly undermines the climate which must be created in order that we may be able to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East--a peace the cornerstone of which is the Palestinian question.

The minister of state for People's Assembly affairs emphasized the government's intention to adopt decisive and deterrent measures which would safeguard the rights of the Palestinian people. He stressed that these measures will not provide for the withdrawal of an ambassador or the expulsion of an ambassador because Egypt is following a practical path to gain Arab rights. He said: I would like to reassure the brothers that the government will adopt decisive and deterrent measures to safeguard Palestinian rights.

The assembly then agreed to refer the members' discussions and proposals on this issue to a joint committee of the Foreign Relations and Arab Affairs committees for study. The deputy prime minister and foreign minister will participate in the study to deliver a statement at the committee and prepare a comprehensive report which will be submitted to the assembly.

Some members of the People's Assembly spoke at the beginning of the session (?condemning) Israel's policy in the occupied West Bank and stressing that security and peace, which Israel uses as a pretext, can be realized through the achievement of full autonomy for the Palestinians and granting their right to self-determination.

MUHYI AD-DIN, ISRAELI ENVOY EXCHANGE VIEWS ON NEGOTIATIONS

NC031052 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1045 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Cairo, 3 June--Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din today received in his office Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Eliyahu Ben-Elisar. It has been learned that at the meeting views were exchanged regarding the subjects related to the Palestinian autonomy negotiations and questions related to the relations between the two countries in general.

AL-AHRAM COMMENTS ON BEGIN'S SINAI OBSERVER FORCE REMARKS

NC310818 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0645 GMT 31 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 31 May--AL-AHRAM says today: It is strange that the Israeli prime minister should raise the question of the Sinai observation force at this time, because it was agreed last September to postpone the discussion of this subject for 1 year and resume it 1 year before the final withdrawal in 1982 in light of international developments and the parties that could contribute to this force.

The paper points out that this was agreed upon in Washington in the presence of former U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, former Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and former Defense Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

AL-AHRAM further says: The Israeli prime minister's raising of this subject at a time when he is facing difficult internal problems in the wake of Defense Minister Weizman's resignation might mean that he wants to focus attention on a subject that is being raised at the wrong time in order to ease the internal crisis he is facing at Egypt's expense.

In conclusion, the paper says: All this is happening at a time when Egypt has been and is still eager not to involve itself in the problems that the Israeli prime minister is facing and that Egypt considers as Israel's concern alone.

PART TWO OF AS-SADAT HERALD TRIBUNE INTERVIEW

NC031300 Cairo MENA in English 1230 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Cairo, June 4 (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat declared that Egypt will go to war at once against anyone obstructing her right in Nile waters. In the second part of his important interview with a mission from the HERALD TRIBUNE INTERNATIONAL, President as-Sadat expressed surprise over Ethiopia's memorandum to the Secretariat of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) that Egypt is misusing the Nile waters and the rights of the Nile states. President as-Sadat said it appears that the Soviet Union has instigated this crisis trying to make trouble for us.

The president spoke about the broad lines for rebuilding great Egypt particularly in connection with reconstruction of new communities and intensive agriculture in the new land. He referred to the Egyptian progress in the industries of fertilizers, cement and the production of oil in addition to the development of the Suez Canal, following up a new economic policy aimed at relieving the economic burdens and confronting the pressures of international inflation.

Following is the full text of the second part of President as-Sadat's interview:

Question: I noticed in your conversation with Mrs Graham that you talked about the need now to concentrate on restoring great Egypt.

The president: Great Egypt?

Interviewer: Yes. I would like to ask you what do you think about the broad lines [which] will be in this new phase?

The president: Well, maybe you know throughout history Egypt has always been great. Really, she gave the first civilization to the whole world seven thousand years before. She gave the first government, the first state since seven thousand years. When I say great I do not mean at all it will be an empire, domination. No. No, not at all. Until this moment we are living on three and a half percent of our land and we are suffering. We have really huge resources, vast country and we are only exploiting three and half percent of it. So the great Egypt means new communities just like your drive to the West. New communities, new land, cities, agriculture, intensive agriculture--this will be the base of my move because we should produce our food here instead of importing more than fifty or sixty percent or seventy percent of our food. We should and we have the means. We have the land, we have the water, we have the climate, we have the farmers. So this is great Egypt that I am dreaming for. Every Egyptian with a happy home and a piece of land to live on, every family.

Interviewer: What you have done in your native village is really marvelous. What do you hope to have in other villages?

The president: This is one of my most happy achievements. Maybe if you balance it with all the achievements that I have done in the last ten years, I think if I am asked to choose I shall choose this achievement of rebuilding Mit Abu al-Kawm.

A villa for every family, that is what I am dreaming of, a villa for every family in Egypt. This is Mit Abu al-Kawm. It is the small Egypt not the great Egypt. This is the small. I have started with the small. And let me hope that I can achieve it in great Egypt. I am building here a villa for every family, for every farmer. As I told you the most happy achievement that I have done is this. At one time I said and I mean it until this moment if I am to retire I shall be very proud of this achievement number one to build for my relatives, the citizens, in Mit Abu al-Kawm new villas from limestone, with which the pyramids were built, and supply them with electric light and running water heated by solar energy, something that nobody believed possible. If anyone told me while I was in my childhood here in the kutas [preschool for Koranic teaching] where we learn Koran, and living a very humble life here, if one has told me that this day will come I could have never believed him.

Interviewer: I noticed that you talked about intensive agriculture. I had been in Cairo for two years and in this trip back I noticed many changes. I think that your investments and your works are beginning to show the results of the open door economic policy.

The president: Right.

Interviewer: What are your feelings about these problems of agriculture, what should be encountered in the process?

The president: Well, let me tell you, we are facing problems that have been accumulated in the last twenty years, not only the ten years after I became president. No, years before this, twenty years or so. And it is accumulating and with the raise of the rate of population that is rising skyhigh--one million every ten months--someone could believe these problems have accumulated more but let me tell you this. I am very happy with the result despite the fact that when I took over as prime minister on the fifteenth of Ma this month, my main aim was and will continue to be more acceleration and I gave my ministers directives openly before the whole people on the television. I told them that what we used to achieve in a year we should achieve in month and that which we used to achieve in a month we should achieve in a day. I want more acceleration. Let me tell you about the results of the open door policy. Let me tell you, I am very happy with the results despite the fact that I am asking for acceleration. But I am very happy, for instance, in the field of fertilizers. Next year we shall be self-sufficient and exporting fertilizers. We have the gas that we found. Thank God, we have found more gas than we need also in Alexandria.

After this gasfield we have built our fertilizers there and I opened this last summer with Genscher. Next year we shall be exporting fertilizers. We are an agricultural country. I think in two or three years we shall be importing again because of the intensive agriculture and we shall continue to build fertilizer plants. Next year we shall be self-sufficient in cement. We used to produce three and half million tons under construction. Now there are eleven million tons including the three and half. Let me hope so next year nine and half [as received] would be at use. So we shall be self-supporting and also exporting oil after we have taken over oil in Sinai from Israel, and with the new discoveries, we now produce from twenty five to thirty million tons a year. Our consumption is about twelve million a year so half of our oil we are exporting now with the new prices. The Suez Canal--if you go and see there--immediately after the re-opening in 1975, immediately and silently we started the plan of widening and deepening the canal and the improvements.

Five years since 1975 until now and by October this year I shall be receiving, instead of five hundred million dollars, a billion dollars a year as tolls, and the ships of one hundred fifty thousand tons can go through the canal loaded. Now they pass empty, but as of next October this year, I think this will give you an example of the achievements.

Interviewer: But Mr President may I ask you this. Do you think that the measures of economic relaxation which you announced in your speech which you saw necessary for ordinary people, do you think that this will damage Egypt's prospect for gaining aid from international monetary organizations?

The president: No, not at all. Maybe you mean that we shall have a conflict with the World Bank because of the prices and so. No, no. Dr 'Abd al-Majid, who is the head of the economic group in the cabinet, he is a man who is known quite well to the World Bank, to the Western world. The man has calculated everything and he is ready to answer. What I have done really is this. In the field of prices there have been artificial raises in prices not only the inflation plus the artificial raise in prices. What we are now dealing with is the artificial raising of prices and I mean the greedy grocers or I mean butchers or so. This is what we are dealing with.

Interviewer: Do you think that Egypt could be able to cope with the pressures of world inflation to maintain the line?

The president: For sure. Yes, for sure.

Interviewer: Since a long time the American people are trying to insist that Egypt should cut its subsidies on various commodities, claiming that the bill of subsidies has been rocketing as every year now you are doing the opposite. You are saying that in fact you want to make prices cheaper. That presumably means you have to give more government aid in various areas. So isn't this going to bring you to conflict with IMF [International Monetary Fund]?

The president: It will not bring us into conflict as I told you because we are dealing with the artificial wave, but for instance we did not raise subsidy to the loaf of bread and it will not be raised on the main items that there are agreement upon with the IMF. Everything is going OK. Even the last law, we issued it last week. This was part of our agreement with the IMF.

Question: Mr President, you have mentioned intensive agriculture, which presumably requires water and efficient technique, but you also have been talking about the Nile several times and now in the last few days, very strongly of Ethiopia, Sudan and these developments. How do you feel about that? What should the world know from As-Sadat about what is going on?

The president: It is this. Believe me I was really astonished when I found out last week or ten days before that Ethiopia has sent a paper to the African Organization secretary telling them that Egypt is misusing the Nile water and the rights of the Nile states and so. There is no trouble between us and the Sudan but suddenly I found this. Why? Maybe they have heard about the water that I have brought to Sinai under the Suez Canal. Well this water will cultivate only thirty-five thousand acres on the shore of the canal. It did not reach yet the rest of Sinai. But it appears they have instigated this crisis trying to make trouble for us. Well I said in this regard you know we depend on the Nile one hundred percent. Herod in history has said that Egypt is the gift of the Nile.

Well, without the Nile we starve. We do not have rains here like you. We do not depend upon any other water except the Nile water, so I said this quite openly and I am going to repeat it: Whoever tries to do anything in this respect, we shall go to war at once. This is fact.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY ELECTS FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE HEAD

NC031910 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1825 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Cairo, 3 June--Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah has been elected chairman of the Egyptian People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee. He succeeds Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, who was appointed deputy prime minister. The People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee held a meeting this afternoon to make this decision. It should be recalled that Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah held the post of committee secretary.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY FORMS COMMITTEE ON SECTARIAN SEDITION

NC032003 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1957 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Cairo, 3 June--The People's Assembly has approved the formation of an ad hoc committee to study the issue of sectarian sedition in light of President as-Sadat's speech and the interior minister's statement. It will submit a report on this issue to the People's Assembly. The committee, which is headed by People's Assembly Secretary Muhammad Rashwan, includes People's Assembly members Mukhtar Hani, Dr Hilmi al-Hadidi and Albert Barsum Salamah.

OPPOSITION PARTY CRITICIZES AS-SADAT REMARKS ON COPTS

LD020825 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 29 May 80 p 1

[AL-BAYAN bureau report: "Cairo: The Grouping Party Calls for the Resignation of As-Sadat's Government"]

[Text] Cairo--The National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party has demanded the resignation of the Egyptian Government and the formation of a new government of national democratic elements--a government that will meet the wishes of all leaderships and hold elections for the constituent assembly on the basis of lists.

In a statement it issued yesterday after intensive meetings to discuss Egyptian ruler Anwar as-Sadat's 14 May speech, the party called for the abolition of all the laws and conditions that restrict political and democratic freedoms, for the immediate release of all political prisoners and for the formation of a national committee to promote national unity between the two elements [Muslim and Christian] of the Egyptian people--a committee that represents all the political and religious forces.

The statement attacks As-Sadat's campaign against the Copts, which he used as a subterfuge to avoid broaching the basic issues related to the building of a democratic state, prosperity, Arab relations and the autonomy talks.

The statement expresses the belief that the sectarian sedition must be tackled on the basis of the reality of the national character of the Islamic religion and the Egyptian church as well as on the basis of the right of all forces to establish their own independent political organizations without any restrictions or trusteeship from anyone, including the political organizations with religious contexts, as long as these organizations pursue democratic means and methods.

The statement censures As-Sadat's attack on the leaders of the Egyptian Coptic Church, which was launched in such a manner as to provoke the religious feelings of all Christians in Egypt.

AS-SADAT, DEPUTY PREMIERS MEET ON DOMESTIC ISSUES

NC311600 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 31 May 80

[Text] This afternoon President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat held a meeting at cabinet headquarters attended by Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, the deputy prime ministers, Minister of State for Culture and Information Mansur Hasan and Secretary General of the Cabinet 'Adil 'Abd al-Baqi. Following the meeting, Minister of State for Culture and Information Mansur Hasan said that President as-Sadat reviewed the latest information about the foreign situation and the results of Vice President Husni Mubarak's visit to the United States, the FRG and Britain.

The president asked each deputy prime minister to submit a report on his sector of responsibility since the cabinet's plenary session. Engineer Ahmad 'Izz ad-Din Hilal submitted a report outlining the problem of prices and the need to increase productivity. He said that the minister of industry restudied the prices of several commodities produced by the public sector. The study showed that it would be possible to reduce the prices of several commodities produced by the public sector. The study showed that it would be possible to reduce the prices of about 348 commodities and that the reduction in some cases amounts to about 30 percent. He also explained that production will be increased on the basis of integrated planning.

Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid reviewed the statements connected with the financial and economic position of the public sector companies and explained that a new tax bill and the framework of the new budget were drawn up and that the most important feature of the budget is that there will be no increase in the price of any commodity beside the increase of wages up to a specific level, while the current budget deficit will be reduced by about 200 million pounds. He said that the development plan will center on food security, housing and on completing the implementation of projects.

Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il then reviewed the policy of transferring services of all ministries to local units and of drawing up a strategy for every ministry to be implemented at the governorate level. He reviewed the studies on technical manpower and its connection with the education system. He also reviewed the question of improving the quality of bread.

Fikri Makram 'Ubayd then discussed the activity of the National Democratic Party and the People's Assembly during the current phase.

AS-SADAT MEETS WITH INFORMATION MEDIA OFFICIALS 3 JUNE

NC031615 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] This morning President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat received Minister of State for Information and Culture Mansur Hasan, Chairman of the Radio and Television Union Safwat ash-Sharif, head of the Broadcasting Station Safiyyah al-Muhandis and head of the Television Station Himmat Mustafa.

Mansur Hasan said afterward that the president had said that the heads of the radio and television stations, chairman of the union and heads of the departments must assume full responsibility for the quick development of the various organs to provide a complete service to the masses in the most efficient manner by raising the standard of the programs and covering all parts of the republic.

The president demanded that special attention be paid to the news bulletins, making each organ responsible for broadcasting domestic and foreign news in complete freedom and objectivity and without any restrictions. He had said that confidence in the broadcasting stations grows stronger only when quick and complete frankness and objectivity are evident.

AS-SADAT ARRIVES IN ISMAILIA FOR CANAL, SINAI VISIT 3 JUNE

NC031308 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat arrived in Ismailia today at the start of a visit to the canal area and the Sinai. During his visit, his excellency will participate in the Suez Canal Authority's celebrations marking the fifth anniversary of the reopening of the canal.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES STATEMENT ON SOUTH AFRICA

NC011605 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Jun 80

[Text] The Arab Republic of Egypt has declared that it is watching with extreme anxiety the events that are taking place in South Africa and the resort by the racist government to inhumane and savage methods to suppress the peaceful demonstrations staged by colored and nationalist students demanding their natural right to education--a right that has been recognized and endorsed by all international documents, beginning with the International Declaration on Human Rights.

This was contained in a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry today. The statement says that the savage methods with which the Pretoria racist authorities confronted the peaceful demonstrations by unarmed youths remind us of the Sharpeville and Soweto massacres. The massacres confirm to the international conscience that these forces are persisting in their transgressions, flouting all international principles and resolutions and consequently defying the entire world.

Egypt urged all the sisterly African states and friendly states to repel this fierce wave of violence by the Pretoria government. It is clearly apparent from this government's behavior that it realizes that its end is near. The African nationalist, revolutionary tide has come closer to it after the independence of the heroic Zimbabwe people. Moreover, Egypt urged all free men in all parts of the world to stand with the African people struggling against the racist authorities in South Africa for the sake of their freedom and all their human rights.

IRAN ATTACKS IRAQI BORDER POSTS WITH ARTILLERY, ANTITANK FIRE

JN031714 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Baghdad, 3 June--A number of Iraqi border posts in the Wasit and Diyala governorates have been exposed to racist Persian attacks, in which artillery and antitank weapons were used.

A border guards forces statement said that the racist Persian forces opened fire with their artillery and antitank weapons on the Iraqi border posts in (Zarbatiyah) junction in Wasit Governorate at 0345 today.

The statement added that these forces resumed their shelling of our border posts at 0700 today. They also shelled the border posts in Khanaqin and Qurahtu in Diyala Governorate at 1300 today. The statement pointed out that our border forces were forced to reply to the racist Persian forces' fire. They silenced the sources of fire and destroyed them, including a number of their U.S.-made 106-mm shells, Israeli 130-mm mortars and vehicles.

The Iraqi border guards statement pointed out that the racist Persian forces' provocations against our border posts have increased in the past few days, causing our forces to return fire. The statement warned the Persian aggressors that our border forces will pay them back twofold for any provocative attempt against our border posts and that our forces will destroy their positions and weapons.

The statement stressed that our Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and revolution are pressing ahead toward the attainment of our Arab nation's objectives, under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn, unimpeded by the aggressors' provocations.

'CONFESSIONS' OF IRANIAN AGENTS DEPOSITED AT UNITED NATIONS

JN022003 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Jun 80

[Text] Iraq has requested the adoption of the racist Persian regime's agents' confessions to carry out acts of sabotage in Iraq as a UN document. The confessions, which were deposited in the United Nations by the Iraqi permanent delegate, exposed the crimes which these agents have perpetrated against the masses. They also exposed their plotting [words indistinct] Iraq as a province belonging to Iran.

IRANIAN KURDISH FAMILIES SEEK REFUGE IN IRAQ

JN030816 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0735 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Jun--The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH reports here today that 1,571 Iranian Kurdish families have sought refuge in Iraq to escape the gunfire and bombs of Khomeyni's guards.

The paper interviews several members of these families. They explained how the Iranian rulers and Khomeyni's guards are committing crimes, intimidating the Kurdish villagers and demolishing Kurdish villages.

A refugee named 'Abd ar-Rahim said: We left Iran, leaving behind all our possessions, in order to escape neo-Nazism, which is trying to wipe out every non-Persian element. He added that Khomeyni's guards have recently executed 86 men from his village. He said that Khomeyni has issued a futwa [formal legal opinion] entitled "The Key to Paradise." This futwa claims that the killer of any Iranian opposing his regime shall enter paradise.

Another family has told the paper that Khomeyni's guards killed four of its children and that the family escaped to Iraq to protect itself. The paper says that the Iraqi Government has earmarked a monthly stipend for every Kurdish family and has provided them with the requisites for a good life.

ARABISTAN YOUTH OPERATIONS AGAINST IRAN REPORTED

JN021725 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Jun 80

[Text] The revolutionary groups of the Arabistan youth have continued to escalate their heroic attacks against the personnel and installations of the racist Khomeyni regime. The detonation of a timed explosive charge planted by the revolutionaries led to killing one element of the Khomeyni guards, completely damaging several of their vehicles. In another heroic operation, the Arabistan revolutionaries also managed to destroy a power station through planting land mines.

The political organization of the Arabistan people--the Abu Sattar group--revealed in a statement recently circulated in the city of Al-Muhammarah [korramshahar] the methods which are used by the Khomeyni guards clique. The statement said that on 29 May, the headquarters of the aforementioned organization in the city were subjected to a treacherous Persian attack, during which a number of martyrs were wounded and killed. The statement added that such treacherous methods were known to all and reflect the nature of this racist regime, which is using Islam as a guise for implementing imperialist schemes and devious moves in the region.

The statement said that the sacrifices offered by our Arab people in Arabistan will not be hindered by anyone, adding that these people are today capable of confronting the Iranian rulers, who are tyrannizing the Iranian people, and their harsh methods with greater courage and sacrifices until victory is finally achieved.

The organization called on the sectors of the Muslim Arab people all over Arabistan to declare a general strike and stage demonstrations of protest in denunciation and rejection of the Khomeyni regime's authority and its impudent imperialist methods.

The organization warned traitors, who are colluding with the racist Persian regime, that they will get their just punishment should they not sever any links they might have with the devious regime.

IRANIAN ARMY URGED TO CONFRONT 'TERRORIST' REGIME

NC031445 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 0730 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] A message to the patriotic Iranian soldiers, NCO's and officers:

Soldiers, NCO's and officers of the Iranian Army: You cannot stay silent anymore. Bowing to the orders of Khomeyni gets you nothing but debasement and vilification. The voice of national duty calls on you to rise, as speedily and energetically as possible, to free the country from the claws of fascism and the rule of dictatorship.

With his satanic messages, Khomeyni is insitgating you against the Kurdish nation. Are the Kurds not kin to you? Are the Kurds not noble and respectable Iranian compatriots? Do they not want to live respectably in their homeland--Iran? But Khomeyni does not want you to raise such questions. He does not want you to nurture a spirit of bravery.

In his messages, Khomeyni (?desires) a spirit of bravery in you. Yes, Khomeyni calls murder and fratricide bravery. What kind of bravery is this under which a brother should murder his brother, for an armed man to kill unarmed people? What type of bravery is this, under which mosques and villages are destroyed, schools brought down on the heads of innocent children, and fields destroyed?

Yes, O zealous soldiers, NCO's and officers: You are well aware that bravery comes only from facing the enemy. But are the Tehran University students, the Kurds, the Arab people of Ahvaz, the Azarbayjanis, Baluchis, Turkmens your enemies? At this point it should be asked, who are you? Are you not the children of these toiling people? Has any one of you ever thought why bombs should be dropped on your villages and on your children and brothers? Has any one of you ever thought of using your own bullets to shoot at your father, your brother, your wife or child?

Yes, Khomeyni wants the destruction of all of Iran. He intends to use you as tools for this destruction. Therefore, are you prepared to be turned into tools of people who are sucking your blood and the blood of your children and parents? Do you agree to help in the destruction of your country with your own hands?

Undoubtedly the answer is negative. Therefore, as Khomeyni says, you should show your bravery, not by bombing the Kurds or killing innocent people, but through freeing your country from the domination of despots, and establishing freedom and democracy in Iran. This bravery and zealousness in national affairs can be displayed in the confrontation with the bloody terrorist regime which weighs on the shoulder of the Iranian peoples.

Therefore, turn your guns on those who seek to contemptibly debase you and your struggling people. They are using you as fuel for their abominable wars. Fight such people in the name of true Islam--not the Islam of Khomeyni--and in the name of the homeland, and in the name of freedom and democracy. Support the deprived people of Iran, final victory will undoubtedly be yours.

VOICE OF IRAQI KURDISTAN REPORTS PESHMERGA ARRESTS IN NORTH

JN312022 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1530 GMT 30 May 80

[Text] Jalal at-Talabani's group has admitted its crime against the peshmerga belonging to the second branch of our party in (Istreshmah).

On 10 May 1980, as is known to the masses of our people, more than 75 armed men from Jalal at-Talabani's group in (Istrehmah) confronted 25 of our peshmerga and disarmed them. This incident happened after our peshmerga had withdrawn from the battlefield because they ran out of ammunition in their fight against the Iraqi regime's forces. Our forces inflicted heavy losses on the regime's forces.

While in retreat, our peshmerga met with At-Talabani's men, who received them as brothers. But on the next day, 11 May, more than 75 of At-Talabani's armed men confronted our peshmerga, who did not want to fight their brothers. Therefore, our men dropped their arms. Some of them were later able to run away, while others were captured by Jalal at-Talabani's men.

Jalal at-Talabani's group admitted this crime as stated in statement No 16 issued by the military office of this group on 23 May. The statement said: On 11 May 1980, a peshmerga force belonging to the second branch was confronted by our forces in the village of (Istreshmah) [words indistinct].

We have learned that the masses of our people in (Balak) and Irbil governorates have strongly condemned this ugly crime. The masses of Kurdistan have also condemned it. We call on all sides to stop this fratricide.

IRAQI KURDISTAN RADIO REPORTS MORE FIGHTING AMONG KURDS

JN021742 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1530 GMT 2 Jun 80

[Text] Our party, the Kurdistan Democratic Party, has lost four other comrades who were martyred at the hands of Jalal at-Talabani's clique. On 17 May, one of our units entered the village of (Malqan) in the area of Safin. The members of the unit, who were tired after having spent a few days on the road, were welcomed by the villagers. However, Jalal's force of more than 400 men, drew weapons on our comrades and fired at them.

Unable to escape, our comrades killed 12 Jalalists and wounded several others. We lost four martyrs and several others were wounded. Our party's martyrs were the victims of Jalal's fratricide. The brother martyrs are: (Mustafa Hajji Rasul), ('Abdallah Qadir Zani), (Muhammad 'Ali 'Arif) and (Muhsin Bapir Shaykhah).

ARAB LIBERATION FRONT DENOUNCES WEST BANK BOMBINGS

JN031725 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Baghdad--The Arab Liberation Front [ALF] has called on world public opinion to support our Palestinian people and their revolution in their struggle against the neo-Nazis and all forms of Zionist suppression and persecution.

In a statement to INA today, a responsible ALF source held the terrorist Begin directly responsible for the Zionist criminal attempt to assassinate the Ramallah and Nabulus mayors.

The source said: The Zionist criminal attempt to assassinate the Nabulus and Ramallah mayors is part of the Begin government's feverish campaign to liquidate the uprising of the Arab Palestinian people in the occupied homeland, by striking at effective elements in this uprising. Indeed, this uprising has frightened the occupation authorities and confused their schemes of liquidation, which involve the establishment of settlements, uprooting, disruption and perpetration of autonomy plots.

The source added that the Begin government, which is waging a merciless war against our Arab Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied homeland and which last week [as heard] deported the Hebron and Halhul mayors and the religious qadi of Hebron, has not hesitated to perpetrate murderous crimes against national figures in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Indeed, the Zionist government is daily attempting to exterminate an entire people.

The responsible source added that while it holds the terrorist Begin directly responsible for this heinous crime, the ALF affirms that the masses of our people and revolutionaries know how to reply to such crimes by the Zionist racists and their allies, As-Sadat and U.S. imperialism.

The ALF also affirmed that attempts to suppress the uprising of our people are doomed to failure. Indeed, the ALF added, such attempts will only increase the people's determination to escalate their struggle against all forms of occupation and attempts at judaization and extermination, which are being practiced within the sight and hearing of all international powers.

BULGARIA'S TODOR ZHIVKOV HEADS DELEGATION ON OFFICIAL VISIT

Speeches Made in Babylon

JN301544 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 May 80

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 30 May--Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Bulgarian State Council Chairman Todor Zhivkov visited the Province of Babylon, 100 km west of Baghdad, this morning. The two leaders began their tour of the province by visiting the historic city of Babylon.

Speaking to the masses who had gathered there to greet and welcome him and Iraq's guest Chairman Zhivkov, President Saddam Husayn said: Our discussions with Chairman Todor Zhivkov were successful and fruitful. We agreed to forge ahead with our friendly relations, placing our two peoples on the road of strong relations in the service of our common objectives, despite the differences in stands and premises.

President Saddam Husayn added: Our relations with Bulgaria have recently been disrupted. A clique of people who have deviated from the principles of the homeland and the nation and have renounced the waters of the Euphrates and the Tigris rivers. The civilization of the Iraqi people and the land between the two rivers have disrupted these relations. The president explained that Chairman Zhivkov's wisdom and deep understanding of the significance of the friendship between Iraq and Bulgaria aborted this attempt. Chairman Zhivkov sent several envoys to Iraq to explain that the Bulgarian Government had nothing to do with what happened.

President Saddam Husayn affirmed that Chairman Todor Zhivkov's response to the invitation we extended to him to visit Iraq reaffirmed the depth of Bulgaria's understanding of the importance of the friendship between Iraq and Bulgaria.

Bulgarian Chairman Todor Zhivkov delivered a speech in which he expressed his thanks and appreciation and that of the delegation accompanying him to President Saddam Husayn for providing them with the opportunity to visit Iraq and to become acquainted with the heroism of its people and their achievements in all fields. He affirmed that the Iraqi and Bulgarian peoples will march side by side in their joint and just struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

Chairman Zhivkov said that the talks he had with President Saddam Husayn were held in an amicable atmosphere and in a spirit of friendship and cooperation. He said: We agreed to promote our friendship and cooperation in the service of our two peoples and the issues of peace and progress.

Zhivkov Meeting With RCC Official

JN301718 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 30 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 30 May--Bulgarian State Council Chairman Todor Zhivkov received here this afternoon 'Izzat Ibrahim, Iraqi Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman.

During the meeting, the Bulgarian president expressed his pleasure at visiting Iraq and his satisfaction with the discussions which he held with President Saddam Husayn and which dealt with developing relations between the two friendly countries.

'Izzat Ibrahim expressed his deep pride in the visit which, he said, contributes to bolstering relations between Iraq and Bulgaria and achieves the interests of the two friendly peoples. During the meeting, they reviewed the fruitful cooperation between the two countries and ways to promote it.

Trade Ministers Discuss Cooperation

JN301721 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1650 GMT 30 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 30 May--Hasan 'Ali, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member and minister of trade, met here this evening with Khristo Khristov, Bulgarian minister of foreign trade, who is accompanying Chairman Zhivkov on his current visit to Iraq.

During the meeting, the two ministers discussed trade relations between the two friendly countries and ways to promote them. They also discussed the expansion of trade and the exchange of delegations between the two countries.

Foreign Ministers Hold Talks

JN311235 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 31 May--Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi met here this morning with Bulgarian Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov. The two ministers discussed international and Arab issues of mutual interest and ways to coordinate the two countries' efforts concerning the Palestinian issue at the next UN General Assembly session.

They also discussed the world economic situation, the U.S. military presence in the Arab Gulf area and the tension that has ensued as a result of the Afghan events.

The two ministers agreed to develop means of communications between the two ministries and to hold meetings at the ministers' level.

Delegation Departs 31 May

JN310909 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 31 May 80

[Text] Badhdad, 31 May--Bulgarian State Council Chairman Todor Zhivkov left Baghdad for home today at the end of a 4-day official visit to Iraq. He was seen off at Baghdad International Airport by President Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council [RCC] Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim, several RCC members, the ministers and several high-ranking officials.

Joint Communique Issued

For the Bulgarian RABOTNICHESKO DELO text of the joint communique issued at the end of Bulgarian State Council Chairman Zhivkov's visit in Baghdad from 28-31 May, see the Bulgaria section of the 4 June Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

SOVIET ECONOMIC OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD FOR TALKS

JN021736 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Jun 80

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Jun--Mordvinov, deputy chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, arrived here today. During the visit, Mordvinov will head his country's side to the meetings of the Iraqi-Soviet joint committee which will begin tomorrow.

PRIME MINISTER MEETS WITH U.S., EUROPEAN, PRC ENVOYS

JN031401 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] This morning Prime Minister as-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf received the US, Soviet, United Kingdom, French and PRC ambassadors in their capacity as representatives of countries that are permanent UN Security Council members. The prime minister discussed with them the serious situation in the occupied territories, the conditions of individual and mass terrorism and the acts of oppression carried out by the occupation forces, which have increased in the occupied Arab territories in recent weeks.

The prime minister drew their attention to the fact that the recent criminal acts against the Ramallah, Nabulus and Al-Birah mayors were an extension of the aggressive and terrorist logic practiced by the occupation forces through their oppressive acts, confiscation of properties and lands, establishment of settlements in the occupied territories, the implementation of a policy by which to disperse the people and the liquidation of nationalist leaders in the occupied territories.

The prime minister informed the ambassadors of the countries that are permanent UN Security Council members that the Jordanian Government is exerting great efforts to explain these realities to the international community and to move the international community's conscience against these oppressive measures. The prime minister added that the Jordanian Government has commissioned its permanent UN representative to work with other Arab groups in this direction. The prime minister invited the countries that are permanent UN Security Council members to begin an immediate international investigation into the recent crimes and to urge the UN Security Council to end the oppressive and arbitrary measures carried out by the Israeli occupation forces.

COMMENTARY DECRIES CARTER'S REMARKS ON USE OF VETO

JN011716 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Jun 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Yesterday US President Jimmy Carter threatened the European states that his country will not hesitate to use the veto in the UN Security Council against any initiative that aims at blocking the Camp David process. Had the Camp David negotiations been successful, this statement would have been justified. However, for the US President to take such a stand on negotiations that have been turning in a vicious circle since they began is indeed puzzling.

According to the repeated statements of the US administration, the US policy in the Middle East aims at establishing a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the area. We, too, sincerely seek to attain this objective. However, the United States' insistence on attaining this objective through the Camp David accords and our opposition to these accords--in view of our belief in their shortcomings in this respect--reveal the divergence between the U.S. and Arab positions. We believe that the Camp David accords cannot establish just peace for various reasons.

1. The parties concerned, particularly the Palestinian side which constitutes the pivot of the issue, have been completely denied participation in a solution to the Middle East conflict and the Palestinian issue.

2. The Camp David accords lack clarity of vision and objective. Their only characteristic is vagueness. Our concept of comprehensive peace is based on two essential principals: Israel's total withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, particularly Arab Jerusalem, and recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, particularly their right to self-determination and establishment of their state on their Palestinian soil.

3. The negotiations that have taken place among the three sides did not offer any tangible solutions to the conflict or the Palestinian issue and reached a deadlock.

For these reasons, the Arab nation, with the exception of President as-Sadat, opposed the Camp David accords and the negotiations that followed them. Therefore, we believe that President Carter's statement on using the veto against any initiative to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict or to solve all the facets of the Palestinian issue constitutes a clear obstacle to the peace process and impedes any effort exerted to establish peace in the Middle East based on the principles of right and justice.

JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN AMMAN 31 MAY

JN311212 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 May 80

[Text] Japanese Foreign Minister Saburo Okita and his wife arrived in Amman today on a 2-day official visit to Jordan. He will hold talks with Jordanian officials on bilateral relations. The Japanese guest was received by Jordanian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Marwan al-Qasim and a number of senior officials from the Jordanian Foreign Ministery. Minister Okita is accompanied by a delegation that includes a number of officials from the Japanese Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Economy.

Talks Begin 31 May

JN311949 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 31 May 80

[Text] Official talks began at the Foreign Ministry this evening between the Jordanian side, under Marwan al-Qasim, minister of state for foreign affairs, and the Japanese side, Under Foreign Minister Saburo Okita. The two sides exchanged viewpoints on a number of international issues in general, and on the current situation in the Middle East and the Palestine question in particular. Al-Qasim outlined the guidelines of the firm Jordanian stand on the Middle East issue, the achievement of a just and lasting peace that is based on the comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967, including the city of Jerusalem, and the recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination on their national land, Palestine.

The two sides also reviewed the various spheres of joint cooperation and the means of further developing and strengthening this cooperation. Attending the talks on the Jordanian side were the minister of industry and trade, the chairman of the National Planning Council, the director of the telecommunications department, the deputy director of the Jordan Valley Authority, the director of the retirement fund, the Foreign Ministry secretary and the director of the Foreign Ministry's political department. Attending on the Japanese side were members of the delegation accompanying to the foreign minister and the Japanese ambassador in Amman.

Meets Crown Prince

JN011242 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Jun 80

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Husayn the regent received at the Royal Hashemite Court today Japanese Foreign Minister Sabura Okita. During this meeting they reviewed the relations between the two countries and means of strengthening them. They also discussed the current Middle East situation and exchanged viewpoints on the achievement of a just comprehensive settlement in the region. The meeting was attended by the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the court minister, the minister of state for foreign affairs, the Jordanian ambassador in Tokyo and the Japanese ambassador in Amman.

The Japanese foreign minister and the members of his delegation were also received today by Prime Minister ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf. During this meeting they reviewed international issues, the current Middle East situation and the Palestine question. They also discussed a number of topics on the strengthening of bilateral relations between Jordan and Japan. The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Marwan al-Qasim and the Japanese ambassador in Amman.

Joint Statement

JN011959 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Jun 80

[Text of Jordanian-Japanese joint statement issued following Japanese Foreign Minister Sabura Okita's 31 May-1 June visit to Jordan]

[Text] Japanese Foreign Minister Dr Sabura Okita and his wife made an official visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. He was the guest of the Jordanian Government from 31 May to 1 June 1980. During his stay in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Dr Okita had the honor to meet with His Highness Crown Prince Husayn, the regent. He also helped official talks with Prime Minister His Excellency ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Marwan al-Qasim and several high-ranking officials in the Jordanian Government.

During the visit official talks were held between Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Marwan al-Qasim and Japanese Foreign Minister Dr Sabura Okita in an atmosphere of friendship and frankness. They exchanged viewpoints on the current international situation and issues of common interest between Jordan and Japan.

The two ministers affirmed that their talks contributed to further understanding of the friendly relations between their two countries. The two ministers agreed that the establishment of just and lasting peace in the near future in the Middle East is necessary and vital for world peace. In this regard the Jordanian minister reviewed the current situation in the Middle East and explained Jordan's viewpoint on this issue. Minister Okita affirmed the Japanese Government's stand on the necessity of implementing UN Resolutions 242 and 338. The two ministers agreed that Israel's total withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Arab Jerusalem; the recognition of the national legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination; and the participation of all the parties concerned, including the PLO, in efforts aimed at reaching a just and comprehensive solution are the basic principles for solving the crisis.

Minister Okita affirmed Japan's viewpoint that the establishment of Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories is illegal and cannot be recognized.

The two ministers exchanged viewpoints on the role which Japan can perform in contributing to the establishment of peace in the Middle East. They affirmed the need for the expeditious withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan and expressed their hopes of reaching an expeditious and peaceful solution to the issue of the hostages in Iran.

The guest minister expressed his high appreciation for the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan under the wise leadership of His Majesty King Husayn. He expressed his admiration for both the marvellous achievements brought about in the field of national building and for the Jordanian Government's contribution to stability and progress in the Middle East. He also expressed his country's readiness to cooperate in development programs in both Jordan and other Middle East countries in order to contribute to peace and stability in the area through economic and technical cooperation.

The two ministers noted with deep satisfaction the recent development of the friendly relations between Jordan and Japan. They agreed on the need to further promote these relations in the political, economic, technical and cultural cooperation fields.

The Japanese foreign minister left Amman today following a 2-day official visit to Jordan.

Meets King Husayn in London

JN021630 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Jun 80

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn this morning received Japanese Foreign Minister Dr Sabura Okita at his place of residence in London. The discussion at the meeting dealt with the Middle East issues. The Japanese minister expressed his government's concern for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the area. The meeting was attended by the Japanese and Jordanian ambassadors in London.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA--The cabinet has approved the appointment of 'Abdallah Salah as Jordan's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Austria. [Text] [Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 2 Jun 80 p 1 JN]

AL-HUSS COMMENTS ON ATTACK AGAINST WEST BANK MAYORS

NC030741 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Commenting on the attempt to assassinate three leaders of the occupied West Bank, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss this morning said: This atrocious crime is one in a series of ugly crimes which Israel has been committing, without impediment or deterrent, in an attempt to blackmail the international community in order to perpetuate its occupation of Arab territory and to impose its racist and expansionist policies.

The prime minister said: It is not strange for Israel to use terrorist means to implement its objectives. Everybody knows that the State of Israel was originally founded on terrorism and that since its establishment power has been assumed by terrorists who recorded black pages in the history of mankind. Menahem Begin is one of them. The prime minister added: While the occupied territory has always been a stage for Israeli crimes, southern Lebanon has been, for years, a living witness to ugly Israeli terrorist activity.

Staging of Protests

NC031230 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] This morning some roads in the capital and the southern suburbs were blocked with burning tires and stones to protest Israel's crime of attempting to assassinate the West Bank leaders. A popular procession was also staged, denouncing Israel's crimes in the occupied territories and south Lebanon.

AL-HUSS DENOUNCES 3 JUNE ATTACK ON ARMY CONVOY NEAR SIDON

NC031333 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] A Lebanese Army convoy, driving from Sidon to Beirut at noon today, encountered a roadblock near Ar-Rumaylah. The armed elements manning the roadblock opened fire on the convoy. The convoy returned the fire and succeeded in silencing and controlling the roadblock. However, some shots are still being fired at the convoy.

Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has made the following statement: We strongly denounce the attack that occurred against a Lebanese Army convoy on Sidon Road. It is painful indeed that such unjustifiable acts can only harm legitimacy and the march of security, peace and accord to which all Lebanese adhere.

ARMY COMMAND ISSUES STATEMENT ON CLASH

NC032050 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 Jun 80

[3 June communique issued by the Lebanese Army Command]

[Text] Some groups of the Palestinian resistance some time ago planted an armed group under the command of deserter officer Ahmad al-Khatib in the Abu al-Aswad and Ar-Rumaylah areas and entrusted it with the task of hindering the movement of the Lebanese Army toward the south. This group has recently been instructed to intensify its acts of aggression against the military men and the military convoys, sometimes with kidnaping and other times with opening fire on them. The latest such act took place at 1000 on 3 June 1980. While one of the military convoys was passing through a roadblock in the Ar-Rumaylah area, the elements manning this roadblock opened fire on the convoy and attempted to seize one of the trucks. The convoy silenced the source of fire. The roadblock was surrounded, but the elements manning it escaped.

Following this incident and within the framework of coordination between the regional military command of the Lebanese Army in the south and the Palestinian resistance officials in the area, it was agreed that no roadblocks would be established in the area. In implementation of this agreement, the military convoy returned from Ar-Rumaylah to the Sidon barracks at 1500 today. Upon its arrival in the city, it came under armed attack from an ambush set by some of the Palestinian resistance groups. Bullets rained on the convoy from all sides. The clash lasted 4 hours, during which the Lebanese Army force could not evacuate its wounded.

Another agreement was reached to evacuate the wounded from the area of the clash. During the operation, ambulances came under a hail of bullets. One person was killed and others were wounded as a result. Some Palestinian resistance groups stormed some of the police stations in Sidon in an attempt to occupy them.

As a result of these incidents, Cpl Tawfiq Jirjis al-Haj was killed and the following were wounded: Capt Tawfiq at-Taqi, 1st Lt Mahir at-Tufayli--seriously wounded--, 1st Lt Mustafa Majdub, WOJG Khuza', Abu Samrah, Pvt Ghalib Dallul, Pvt Sulayman Shu'ayb--seriously wounded--, Pvt 'Ali Tahhal, Sgt Hasan Hayik, Sgt Husayn al-Haj, Pvt Wahid ash-Shaykh 'Ali, Pvt Muhammad Nasir, Pvt Husayn Bazli, Pvt Husayn Baydun, and Pvt Marun Makhkhul. Police Sgt Hassan al-Khatib and Police Cpl Muhammad Haydar of the Internal Security Forces were also wounded.

The Lebanese Army Command, which had decided to confront the Israeli enemy in southern Lebanon, is surprised at the attacks on military convoys moving south to carry out their national duty there. The command affirms that any irresponsible action against the rear of the Lebanese Army stationed in the south to confront the Israeli aggression will not deflect it from its duty. The blood of our heroic soldiers is not free to any one. They are the sons of the people, and they are dutybound to defend their land and honor.

DEFENSE MINISTER DEPLORES AR-RUMAYLAH, SIDON INCIDENTS

NC032140 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Commenting on the attacks on army units in Ar-Rumaylah and Sidon today, Defense Minister Joseph Skaf said: After the attacks on the Lebanese Army convoys in Ar-Rumaylah and Sidon, we can only call on all sincere citizens who are demanding legitimate authority and the state's sovereignty to realize their responsibilities, because these attacks are aimed not only against authority and the state's sovereignty to realize their responsibilities, because these attacks are aimed not only against the Lebanese Army but also against security and stability. We condemn all acts of aggression against the Lebanese Army from whatever party, because aggression against the army is aggression against the legality which all the Lebanese people are demanding.

Skaf said: The Lebanese Army is the army of all Lebanon, not an enemy army to be fired on. The aggressors, whatever the faction they belong to, must direct their rifles against the enemies of Lebanon, not against the Lebanese Army.

AGREEMENT REACHED ON COMMITTEE FOR BEIRUT SUBURB SECURITY

NC040709 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 4 Jun 80

[Text] The meeting which were held in Damascus last Sunday and Monday among the representatives of the Amal Movement, the Palestinian resistance, the Nationalist Movement and the Patriotic Front have resulted in an agreement to set up a coordination committee comprising the four parties.

This committee will try to prevent the recurrence of bloody incidents which took place in the southern suburb of Beirut last week.

It was also agreed that the Arab Deterrent Forces and the Lebanese Internal Security Forces will be responsible for security in the area, free of interference by any other party. In addition, a pledge was made not to open any party or organizational offices in the area.

ISRAELI UNIT RELEASES KIDNAPED LEBANESE CITIZENS

NC040702 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 4 Jun 80

[Text] A UNIFIL spokesman said that certain Lebanese citizens, who are abducted by an Israeli Army unit from Bra'shit township on 30 May, were freed last night.

A Fijian patrol was fired on by armed elements in Al-Qulaylah, 9 km from Tyre, 2 days ago. The Fijian patrol returned the fire. Later reinforcements arrived and searched the area.

VOL REPORTS AL-KHATIB SUPPORTERS KIDNAP LEBANESE SOLDIERS

NC040836 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0815 GMT 4 Jun 80

[Text] At 0745 today, supporters of deserter officer Ahmad al-Khatib kidnaped a warrant officer (junior grade) and a sergeant of the Lebanese Army in Corniche al-Mazra'ah, in the western sector of Beirut.

Security sources reported that Al-Khatib's supporters were using mobile barricades in cooperation with elements of Fatah.

JERUSALEM REPORTS 3 JUNE ARTILLERY BATTLE IN SOUTH

TA040637 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 4 Jun 80

[Text] Last night a heavy artillery battle took place in the salient north of Metulla between Christian militiamen and the terrorists. The latter began firing from their strongholds, including the Beaufort fortress, toward Marj 'Uyun and Al-Qulay'ah, and Major Haddad's men returned the fire. The Christian villages were damaged, but there has been no report on casualties.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM RECEIVES LEBANESE DELEGATION

JN031243 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Damascus--Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received at 1100 today the delegation of the Lebanese national guards, which includes the following: George Hawi, Muhsin Ibrahim and Tawfiq Sultan. During the meeting, a review was concluded on the situation in the Lebanese arena.

LEBANESE GROUPS MEET IN DAMASCUS TO RESOLVE DISPUTE

NC031952 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Excerpt] A joint meeting was held in Damascus on 2 June 1980 at the initiative of Syria and the PLO, and following a series of contacts among the various sides of the national rank to deal with the cause and effect of the regrettable incidents which took place in a number of Lebanese areas--the latest being the incident in the sourthern Al-Matan coastal area. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Amal movement, the Lebanese national movement and the nationalist front, and was dominated by strong feelings of national and nationalist responsibility and of the need to strengthen the unity of the Lebanese national ranks.

The conferees studied the circumstances and implications of the recent incidents within the framework of their common understanding of the nature of the current stage through which the Lebanese arena is passing as part of the general Arab situation. This understanding sees the designs of Camp David, its parties and the autonomy plot in occupied Palestine as the sources of real danger to all the positions of national and nationalist steadfastness, led by Syria, the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national forces.

The conferees saw links between the persistent attempts to implement the Camp David agreements with its various forms and formulas and the plots taking place in Lebanon--through which the parties involved are trying to penetrate the national rank and strike at its fateful unity by perpetrating armed clashes among sons, who have the same cause and are strugglers in the same trench against a common enemy.

The conferees affirmed their clear-cut determination to confront this plot and to firmly resist all its designs and tools, out of concern for the security of the national masses and their interests as well as the common national issue.

There was full agreement in the meeting on the need to defend the unity, independence and sovereignty of Lebanon and to affirm its Arabism, the need for Lebanon to resist the Zionist danger and the aggressions of Israel and its agent Sa'd Haddad, to work toward regaining the occupied border strip, to defend the Palestinian resistance and protect its legitimate interests as well as to resist the Camp David plot and its results, including the settlement plans.

In adherance to these aims, the conferees affirmed the need to work jointly to promote the process of national accord. In an attempt to tackle the repercussions of the recent regrettable incidents, the conferees stressed the vitality and necessity of the role undertaken by the Arab Deterrent Forces to maintain security within the framework of their national and nationalist mission. They also stressed the need to cooperate fully with them and to support them in their mission.

In an effort to strengthen the common struggle, the conferees decided to form a national action coordination committee to be composed of representatives of the Amal movement, of the Lebanese national movement and nationalist front, and of the Palestinian resistance. This committee will undertake the task of achieving the common national and nationalist aims and assist the legal authority in maintaining security and tackling all violations, bringing to account all offenders in these critical circumstances.

CHILEAN LEFTIST DELEGATION ARRIVES ON VISIT

JN032111 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Damascus--A delegation of the movement of the revolutionary left in Chile headed by Nelson Gutierrez, assistant secretary general of the movement and head of its foreign relations bureau, arrived in Damascus tonight on a visit to Syria, at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command. The delegation was met at Damascus international airport by Comrade Fawwaz Sayyagh, National Command member and head of its foreign relations bureau, and by several bureau officials.

While in Syria, the guest delegation will hold party and political talks with party command officials. This visit takes place in light of the common struggle ties between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and Latin American liberation movements, which are waging a mounting struggle against U.S. imperialism, Zionism and the reactionary military juntas in that continent. The movement of the revolutionary left in Chile has been fighting the reactionary military junta in Chile since the overthrow of the democratic regime there and the assassination of President Allende, in order to achieve freedom and democracy.

A program has been arranged for the guest delegation to meet with government and party officials and to visit historical and cultural places, as well as the liberated city of Al-Qunaytirah.

BA'TH OFFICIAL RECEIVES GDR FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION

JN032058 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Damascus--Comrade Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, regional assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received the GDR-Syrian Friendship Society delegation headed by Professor Horst Lehfeld, president of the society, at 1300 today. The meeting was attended by GDR Ambassador in Damascus Heinz-Dieter Winter.

Comrade Mashariqah began by welcoming the friendly delegation and praising the ties of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly peoples and countries in the various fields. He affirmed Syria's resolve to foil all plots hatched by imperialism, Zionism and the Camp David partners against the Arab nation and its central issue, Palestine.

The head of the GDR delegation affirmed his country's desire to consolidate the ties of friendship and cooperation with Syria in all fields. He also reaffirmed his country's support for the Arabs in their just struggle to regain their rights and to topple the imperialist-Zionist plot to usurp Arab rights, liquidate the Arabs' central issue, Palestine, and deprive the Palestinians of their right to return to their homeland and determine their own destiny.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES TEACHERS CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

JN022048 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 2 Jun 80

[Excerpts] Damascus--At 1600 today His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received the heads of the delegations that are participating in the international seminar of teachers in the Mediterranean basin.

President al-Asad welcomed the delegation heads and expressed happiness at meeting them. President al-Asad said that the seminar's topics have prominent significance particularly since we, in this area, are suffering from Zionism's racism and its evils.

After pointing out the close links that exist between Zionism and imperialism, his excellency the president expressed Syria's appreciation for the teachers' support of its struggle. President al-Asad said: Despite imperialist aggressions against us, we are confident that we shall defeat imperialism and we are determined to defeat it and its emblems in any place in which it exists. We do not belittle the power of imperialism, but we believe that history works for the people and their just causes. Imperialism is against this trend and believes that time has stopped and that a group of difficulties in this or that country might encourage people to kneel down. Imperialism forgets that the peoples do not relinquish their principles or their just causes.

President al-Asad said: Imperialism has been exercising pressures on us through various means. Imperialism has tried to exploit flaws and rusty tools. Imperialism's pressures, however, increase our ardor to continue struggling and to discard these flaws that exist in our homeland.

President al-Asad added: U.S. imperialism wants to impose its control on us, but it will not succeed. The future will be only as desired by the peoples in the area and according to their principles, causes and aspirations for a social, cultural, economic and pan-Arab life. These just aspirations should be achieved and they enjoy the support of both the area's peoples and that of the peoples in the world. It is no longer possible for a great power to impose its will on the world.

President al-Asad then spoke about the Camp David conspiracy which, he said, they claimed was a peace march. President al-Asad said that this is a conspiracy to impose capitulation on the Arab nation. We have rejected this conspiracy and have worked to foil it. The conspiracy has begun to fail and will collapse sometime despite their efforts to infuse life into it and impose it on the people.

President al-Asad said: If the United States really wants peace in this area, it would not abort UN resolutions on the Middle East, particularly since what they did at Camp David contradicts the UN resolutions on content and form.

As for Israel, it wants a peace according to its concept. The United States wants something similar. This means that both want the Arab nation to capitulate. However, we are determined to reject this. We are confident that our Arab nation will support us and that progressive and militant forces in the world will be on our side.

ALGERIA

BENDJEDID RECEIVES SAUDI CROWN PRINCE FAHD

LD301410 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 30 May 80

[Summary] Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN secretary general, yesterday received at the People's Palace the Saudi crown prince, Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The talks which began at this meeting were also attended by Rabih Bitat, speaker of the National People's Assembly; by the party's coordinator, and by the premier and the foreign minister. On the Saudi side the talks were also attended by Prince Talal ibn Abd al-'Aziz, the amir of Riyadh District, and by Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal.

Fahd Departs

LD301412 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 30 May 80

[Excerpt] Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the Saudi delegation accompanying him left Algiers 1 hour ago after [words indistinct].

LIBYA

UGANDAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 1 JUNE

LD021006 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 2 Jun 80

[Text] Tripoli, 2 June--Ugandan Foreign Minister Erifasi Otema Olimadi arrived in Tripoli yesterday on a visit to Jamahiriyah.

Jallud Meeting

LD032024 Tripoli JANA in English 1651 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Tripoli, June 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud received in Tripoli this morning Mr. O. Olimadi, the Ugandan foreign minister. The meeting was also attended by the Libyan foreign secretary.

Departs 3 June

LD032026 Tripoli JANA in English 1745 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Tripoli, June 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Mr. O. Olimadi, the Ugandan foreign minister left Tripoli this evening after ending a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

JAMAICAN PRIME MINISTER ENDS VISIT TO LIBYA

LD021541 Tripoli JANA in English 1444 GMT 2 Jun 80

[Text] Tripoli, June 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Jamaican prime minister left Tripoli this morning at the end of an official visit to the Jamahiriyah during which he held talks on promoting bilateral relations. In a statement to JANA, he expressed his satisfaction with the results he achieved during his stay in the Jamahiriyah. He also praised the direct democracy practised in the Jamahiriyah which he witnessed during a meeting of Al-Andalus [as received] basic people's congress in Tripoli.

LIBYAN, SOVIET AGRICULTURAL OFFICIALS HOLD TALKS

LD032044 Tripoli JANA in English 1740 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Tripoli, June 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The secretary of the general people's committee for land reclamation and agrarian reform held a meeting this morning with the Soviet deputy minister for agriculture. The meeting discussed the bilateral cooperation and dealt with the running of the joint committees in (the) agriculture field. The visiting Soviet deputy minister visited today Al-Fatah University where he praised the progress achieved by the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in various fields.

MOROCCO

OPPOSITION'S 'AUTOMATIC' REJECTION OF REFERENDUM HIT

LD031527 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 30 May 80 pp 1, 3

[Ahmed Alaoui editorial: "Yes" to the Invasion of Afghanistan, "No" to the Revision of the Constitution"]

[Text] [Party of Progress and Socialism (PPS) Secretary General] Comrade Ali Yata and his friends have decided to reply with a "revolutionary" (sic) not to the constitutional amendments proposed by his majesty the king in the referenda of 23 and 30 May.

There is good reason to be surprised at this stance on the first referendum relating to the Regency Council, since it gives additional guarantees to the constitution, since this Regency Council becomes a collegial, not to say people's council. Three of its representatives are ordinary citizens: the president of the Supreme Court, the speaker of Parliament and the chairman of the Rabat-Sale Ulema Council. It is no longer the king's closest relative who heads the council, which also includes 10 leading people appointed by the king.

This is, therefore, a move toward greater democracy. However, despite these achievements and this progress in a democratic direction, Comrade Ali Yata and his friends decided to pronounce a "progressive" no to this democratic amendment without even being able to justify it and without even being able to put forward an argument to explain their stance.

However, party discipline, discipline and orders--from whom?--are requirements which cannot be ignored. Of course, it is easy to imagine the PPS not agreeing with the 30 May referendum. But as far as last Friday's referendum is concerned the communists--since we must call them by their real name--reacted as usual with an automatic and conditioned reflex. In fact they were consistent with their own line. The stance they adopted on 23 May was indicative of their designs.

Despite all their statements and all their pretense, they are motivated by opposition to the regime as they claim, they would not have hesitated to vote yes. Indeed the communists--all communists--work according to a strategy and tactics. Their strategy is the conquest of power, collectivization, Sovietization, the suppression of civil liberties, human rights and constitutional rights; it is the creation of one party and hence an iniquitous party, of one trade union and of a monolithic press. In short, their strategy is to establish a totalitarian regime, to install a dictatorship under cover of a regime of so-called scientific socialism, in other words an outright atheistic regime.

Any method is a good one to attain that objective, and the tactics of all Stalinists have always been and still are the same. There are unfortunately many examples, and the most edifying one is that of Czechoslovakia, where the communists sided with the patriots and democrats within a national front, launched appeals to the bourgeois classes, to Catholics and Protestants and to property owners and industrialists. After being integrated into the system and holding levers of power, they take the first opportunity to mount a coup, usually with the support of a foreign army....It is significant to note that no communist regime has been installed by legal means, but always by violence, most frequently with the support of foreign forces. Any method is permissible to attain these ends, starting by constantly proclaiming attachment to democracy, which they want to use the better to stifle it later.

These, therefore, are the tactics used by all communist parties, which are not afraid of adopting a conciliatory attitude toward religion (has the PCF not just decided to send a delegation to attend the mass which will be celebrated by Pope John Paul II on his arrival in France?), toward existing regimes, and toward the institutions they want to destroy. The communist parties are therefore like chameleons which change color to ensure their camouflage before they can turn red--once and for all.

However, the Moroccan Communist Party cannot always deceive people. Indeed, it is one of the parties which has remained the most Stalinist, the most unconditionally tied to the CPSU, and it shows this clearly whenever the aggressor is communist.

When the USSR invaded Afghanistan--a nonaligned country which is Muslim in addition--the PPS' first concern was to approve and even to applaud the action. The Muslim victim no longer matters.

Therefore, in the case of this negative vote on 23 May and this approval of the aggression against Afghanistan we can see that tactics were overtaken by strategy. These two stances should prompt those who are ready to be taken in by the appearance of the tactics to see that the strategy does not change. Every time they are put to the test, the communists do not hesitate to show that they above all, are Stalinist and not Muslim or nationalist. Whether it be in internal or external problems, the strategy remains the same although the tactics tend to deceive people, and the communists put ideology before the nation, the institutions and Muslim solidarity.

FORMER SAHARA RESIDENTS APPEAL TO SPAIN FOR SUPPORT

LD030951 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 14 May 80 p 6

[MAP report: "AOSARIO: Vital Forces of Our Two Nations Should Act Together To Counter Any Threat From Algerian-Libyan Coalition"]

[Text] El Aiun, 14 May--The Association of Natives of Saguia El Hamra and Rio de Oro [AOSARIO] sent Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja a memorandum Tuesday [13 May], the text of which follows. Copies of this memorandum were also sent to the leaders of political parties and trade union and student organizations in Spain.

The full text of this memorandum follows:

Mr Minister, in view of the political and diplomatic events resulting from maneuvers carried out, without consulting the natives of the Sahara formerly under Spanish rule, by the Algerian-Libyan coalition, whose right to speak on our behalf is disputed and denied by AOSARIO, we feel the need to point out to you the pertinence of the saying that terrorism threatens all governments, aside from those who indulge in it and organize it, in this case Algeria and Libya.

In the context of this situation in which Spain and Morocco are together faced with the Algerian-Libyan coalition, the higher interests of our two peoples prompt us to unite to find countering tactics instead of these delays which play into the enemy's hands with regard to the unity and sovereignty of our respective countries.

Although in other spheres Spain's foreign policy frequently reflects its people's unanimity, its partial policy benefiting the Algerian-Libyan coalition is nonetheless prompting strong criticism and unfavorable opinions within Spain.

"There is none so blind as he who will not see," we have heard the overwhelming majority of your people say. This same majority is aware that your diplomacy is bending not to justice but to an abominable blackmail exercised on Madrid by the Algerian-Libyan coalition which is sheltering and training the separatist movements. It will be recognized that Morocco's solidarity with Spain and its respect for the principle of noninterference have never been called into question. It is also Morocco which, far from following the "Al-Qadhdhafi" and "Algerian" methods by offering bases to the Canary Islands movement and other separatist movements from the Iberian Peninsula, is continuing to encourage economic relations and to allow Spanish fishermen to fish in our territorial waters. This shows you how proud we are to belong to a country which is loath to use methods shunned by responsible and thinking sections of international opinion.

Mr Minister, because of the nature of the prospects now facing our two peoples, the requirements of the political-economic ties which have been established and need to be developed, the ideal framework for fruitful cooperation offered by their geographical position and their affinities and, finally, the positions they are called upon to occupy with cooperation and mutual solidarity as a common denominator, the vital forces of our two nations must act together to counter any threat from the Algerian-Libyan coalition aimed at attacking the territorial integrity of our two countries respectively. The decisions which our two peoples expect from our respective governments are of exceptional interest since this is a subject which remains the focal point of our concerns and also of a historical responsibility which each of us should assume in his daily life, as this cohabitation which all of us desire essentially requires.

There is no doubt that our homeland Morocco, like Spain, lies in the path of the Algerian-Libyan coalition's ambition--a coalition which is working for Soviet imperialism in Africa. Since Madrid seems unaware of the fact, we can quote, for example, the suspicious circumstances in which Spanish colonialism created a "POLISARIO" in 1975 of which, curiously enough, nobody had heard tell before.

These machinations directed against Morocco in a suspicious atmosphere have prompted us, as the first organization to be formed in the Sahara against the occupier, to reexamine in detail the attacks, isolation and obscurity and the degradation to which these Moroccan provinces were subjected throughout their colonization.

The serious damage which is still affecting the region after its emergence from the colonial hell, in other words after the Madrid agreement which sealed the Sahara's decolonization, can be attributed to Madrid's arbitrary decision to unilaterally stop the decolonization process which was to lead to the total reunification of our country, Morocco. This unilateral decision came after Spain had already handed back Tarfaya and its region, with Sidi Ifni, which are part of the same context as Saguia El Hamra and Rio de Oro.

There is no doubt that the Algerian-Libyan coalition based its plans on the African situation which means that if a leader of a threatened or unstable nation discovers that the only means of staying in power is to turn toward the Soviet camp for which Algeria and Libya are now active agents in the region, he will not hesitate to do so. This brings to your attention, therefore, the position of these African states which are financially dependent on Algiers and Tripoli, and prepared to be accomplices of their political maneuvers and to support all the resolutions emanating from those countries.

Our remarks are not casual when you realize the forms of dependency produced by the easy solutions chosen by Madrid's diplomacy in face of the machinations of the Algerian-Libyan coalition which is using the Spanish separatist movements as a sword of Damocles permanently hanging over the Spanish people's heads. There is no doubt that the Spanish officials' experiences have shown them the sordid calculations and manipulations produced by the Algerian-Libyan leaders throughout the world.

Mr Minister, as an authentic liberation organization which has struggled for the return of the Moroccan provinces to the Moroccan homeland, we hesitated to disturb the "peaceful course" of the negotiations which cash in again and again on the future of our families imprisoned by the Algiers' military dictatorship which refuses, in violation of internatinal law, to give them the benefit of the Geneva Convention, in other words a census and official status and a free return to their Moroccan homeland.

This is being refused to our families imprisoned in the concentration camps established on Algerian territory and also to their underage children who are in Libyan barracks where they are subjected to conditioning aimed at turning these homeless people into robots and fascists serving Al-Qadhdhafi's criminal policy.

Mr Minister, your government's political program which seeks to achieve its people's unity and Spain's territorial integrity, meaning Gibraltar and the Canary Islands, is an important task with a power to mobilize the people which deserves great respect from us, especially at a time when we are asking you to accept and recognize reciprocity with regard to our Moroccan homeland.

Allow us to point out to you and remind you, in order to end some doubt which has sown confusion in people's minds, that when the question of the wording of the referendum on self-determination in the Sahara was first raised in the United Nations, it was, as history can confirm, to ask the Moroccan population under Spanish domination whether they accepted the Francoist law which had decreed the Sahara to be a Spanish province on the same footing as the Canary Islands or wanted to remain what they had always been, in other words, Moroccan.

Owing to its geographical position Spain is undoubtedly the link between Africa and Europe; therefore, by its position and the secular ties which link it to this continent, the Spanish Government must courageously play its political, diplomatic and humanitarian role in the region.

It is on this basis that AOSARIO appeals to the Spanish people and its mass organizations, urging them to use their influence to save and spare thousands of Chadians, Nigerians, Malians, Mauritanians and Algerian Saharans from the Algerian-Libyan maneuvers which have made these victims of the drought, subjugated and impoverished, a human stockpile from which the Algiers general staff fills the ranks of its army of aggression--an army of aggression used, as you know, for goals of hegemony and leadership.

AOSARIO, which is determined to continue the struggle until Algerian-Libyan propaganda has been completely exposed and until its families imprisoned in Algeria are released, hopes that the Spanish people will assume their responsibilities and save northwest Africa from the expansionist danger.

Done at El Aiun 13 May 1980 for AOSARIO.

[Signed] Secretary General Ahmed Rachid.

BOUABID, PRC HEALTH OFFICIAL HOLD TALKS

LD032226 Rabat MAP in French 1530 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Rabat, 3 June,(MAP)--Mr Tan Yunha, Chinese vice-minister of health, who arrived in Morocco last Thursday for a 10-day visit, was received on Tuesday in Rabat by Mr Maata Bouabid, prime minister and minister of justice. The Moroccan minister of public health and the members of PRC delegation were also present. During the talks the two sides congratulated themselves on the "excellent results" recorded by the Chinese medical missions operating in Morocco, particularly in Settat, and declared themselves "determined to pursue and strengthen cooperation between Morocco and the People's Republic of China."

REPORT OF MOROCCAN ATTACK ON SPANISH BOAT 'FABRICATION'

LD041109 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 4 Jun 80

[Text] Rabat--Following reports in Algiers regarding an alleged attack on a Spanish fishing vessel in the waters off Dakhla, authorized Moroccan sources have categorically refuted these allegations, explaining that no such incident took place in Moroccan territorial waters. The Moroccan sources believe that the whole matter is a mere fabrication which has psychological dimensions; it has been invented at a time when the POLISARIO mercenaries are in a state of confusion and desperation in the wake of the drastic defeats they have suffered.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI RESHUFFLES GOVERNMENT; BAKR DISMISSED

JN031736 Khartoum SUNA in English 1724 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Khartoum, 3 June--President Ja'far Numayri in a minor government reshuffle today relieved Vice President ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr.

Bakr, who also doubles as foreign minister, was relieved from both posts by a presidential decree issued today by President Ja'far Numayri. The president, in a similar decree appointed Bakr member of the newly elected People's Assembly (parliament).

The minister of People's Assembly affairs Jalal 'Ali Lutfi was also relieved.

The president also decreed the establishment of a new Ministry for Internal Affairs and has named Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman as its minister.

Former state minister in the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reform, Haydar Kabsun, has been appointed minister of public service and administrative reform.

NUMAYRI TO ATTEND EAST AFRICAN SUMMIT ON 6 JUNE

JN031435 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Khartoum, 3 June--Next Friday, President Ja'far Numayri will leave for Arusha at the head of a high-level delegation to attend the meetings of the four-sided summit of the following East African states: Kenya, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

During these meetings, which will begin on Friday, President Numayri will propose an agenda that will include his concept of and proposals on ways to bolster stability and security in Uganda and on the links of friendship and cooperation among the East African states.

ISRAELI AMBASSADOR RECEIVED BY EGYPTIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

TA031551 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] The Israeli ambassador to Egypt, Eliyahu ben-Elisar, today conferred for 30 minutes with Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din. It has been reported that they discussed subjects related to the autonomy talks and issues related to relations with Egypt.

BEGIN REJECTS PROPOSAL ON TERRITORIAL COMPROMISE WITH JORDAN

TA010942 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Jun 80 pp 1, 2

[By Knesset correspondent Dan Margalit]

[Excerpts] At a meeting with the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee on Friday Prime Minister Menahem Begin rejected the Alignment's approach on the status of King Husayn in Judaea and Samaria "even if Nabulus is handed over to him the actual control will be in 'Arafat's hands," the prime minister said. He revealed that in the negotiations on the autonomy the Egyptians were demanding the establishment of a legislative, executive and judicial council which would also decide on security problems. "That would be an unnamed Palestinian state," Begin said.

The meeting was opened by MK Yitzhaq Rabin of the Alignment who claimed there was a national consensus regarding the positions Israel opposes: against a Palestinian state, against affecting Jerusalem's sovereignty and against returning to the 1967 borders. Yet, Rabin noted, the Likud's goals were unobtainable. Israel should renew the contacts on a territorial compromise with Husayn. This compromise would relieve Israel of the Arab population and yet give it security.

After hearing the remarks of MK Zalman Shoval (Likud-Rafi) Mr Begin said there was exaggerated anxiety over the U.S. positions after the presidential elections. "Israel was not alone," the prime minister said. It had friends in the U.S. Congress and administration. Begin added that 1 year before the last stage of the Camp David accords the three parties would meet. If a multinational force is not stationed in the Sinai by then, the last stage of the withdrawal will not be carried out.

Begin continued: Egypt wants a new target date for the autonomy talks--one date after Carter's reelection as president in November 1980 and another date, April 1981, if he is not reelected. Begin expressed his view that President as-Sadat wanted peace.

Mr Begin expressed his reservations on the opinion expressed by MKs Rabin and Savidor that the United States was unilaterally striving for the establishment of a separate Palestinian entity. Secretary of State Muskie said he had made it clear to the European countries that the United States would veto any proposal to amend Resolution 242. Carter regarded a separate Palestinian state as an unstable factor in the Middle East.

Begin rejected MK Savidor's proposal on Jerusalem [calling for the participation of other elements in municipal legislation]. Mr Begin said the Christians had never built their shrines on the temple mount, but the Muslims had done so. However, there is absolutely no way for a Saudi flag to be hoisted on top of the temple mount. "MK Savidor's proposal only increases Arab demands," Begin added.

On another matter, Begin rejected the proposal to demilitarize Judaea and Samaria. In his opinion, a demilitarization was feasible in a desert area but could not be implemented in populated cities.

From the prime minister's remarks, various Knesset members gained the impression that respectable U.S. elements would like to see the Israeli Government changed. Mr Begin took exception to former Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman's remarks about who was responsible for the U.S. decision to provide Israel with the engines for the Lavi aircraft. Begin expressed his wish that his remarks be registered in the minutes of the meeting.

U.S. VICE CONSUL'S REMARKS ON TERRITORIES REPORTED

TA031021 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Jun 80 p 2

[Text] Last week the U.S. vice consul in Jerusalem, Mr Thomas Wukitsch, made an unprecedentedly sharp attack against Israel's policy in the administered territories and pulled U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis into intervening in his remarks in an attempt to soften the impression he was making.

In a talk the vice consul held with a delegation of five U.S. congressmen (headed by Lester Wolff), he used hard-hitting words about Israel's rule in the territories. Wukitsch told the delegation members that they should avoid visiting the West Bank since "it is dangerous to visit because a civil revolt is now going on there." He also said that in the United States' view the settlements were illegal. During the course of his remarks, Ambassador Lewis intervened and said that some of the vice consul's remarks did not represent U.S. policy.

The vice consul had organized a meeting between the delegation of congressmen and public leaders from the West Bank and East Jerusalem. The meeting acquired a thoroughly political character and during it the Arab notables attacked Israel's policy in the territories. Among the speakers was Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa, who attacked U.S. aid to Israel. He also said that through its policy the United States was causing the Palestinian extremist elements to take control of the camp and the moderates would not be able to stop them from setting fire to the oilfields in the Middle East.

ENERGY MINISTER ON OIL POLICY DIFFERENCES WITH U.S.

TA031912 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] A special U.S. energy delegation will be coming to Israel at the end of next month to finalize the oil agreement between the United States and Israel. Energy Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i has told the Knesset Energy Committee that there are sharp differences between the two countries over the definition of what is a state of emergency.

According to the agreement signed over a year ago, the United States must aid Israel if Israel finds it difficult to buy fuel through normal procedures. There are differences over the meaning of this phrase. Israel says that when she has to pay a higher price for oil, the agreement goes into effect. The Americans say only when Israel cannot buy oil should the agreement be applied. The talks have also covered the possibility of the sale of Alaskan oil to Israel. Under U.S. law, Alaskan oil cannot be sold to a foreign country.

FOREIGN MINISTER SHAMIR LEAVES FOR VISIT TO DENMARK, BENELUX

TA030937 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0915 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Excerpt] Ben-Gurion Airport, 3 Jun--Foreign Minister Mr Yitzhaq Shamir left this morning for talks with the foreign ministers of the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark and Luxembourg in an effort to dissuade them from taking any initiative that might hamper the Middle East peace efforts.

Mr Shamir will be out of the country for 1 week. Prior to his departure, he said that it is possible that yesterday's events in Hebron, Nabulus and Ramallah may influence his talks. "The sorry events prove that tension prevails in the region. Our peace efforts are aimed at ending this tension, at obtaining peace that will stop bloodshed by the two nations," he said.

"I do not know if I will be able to persuade my interlocutors about Israel's rights, but everything must be done to aid the peace efforts and to prevent resolutions that might prevent them from being taken," the foreign minister said.

Replying to another question, he said that he hopes the autonomy talks will resume soon, but when asked whether this is his last mission as foreign minister, (before he is appointed defense minister), he said: "I do not know."

SHARON SAID TO RESIGN IF SHAMIR BECOMES DEFENSE MINISTER

TA031225 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 3 Jun 80 pp 1, 7

[By Arye Tzimuqi and Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon will only resign from the government if Yitzhaq Shamir is appointed minister of defense. As long as Begin keeps this portfolio, Sharon will continue to hold on to his current post in the government. This has been explained by Sharon's confidants.

This position of the minister of agriculture is well known to Begin, but nevertheless he explained to his coalition partners that if the new government appointments (Shamir as defense minister and Moda'i as foreign minister) are guaranteed a coalition majority, he would not hesitate to implement them. Begin also expressed the hope that this would occur within 1 or 2 weeks.

In the meantime, several members of Herut and Gush Emunim are making attempts to dissuade Sharon from resigning, even if Shamir is appointed defense minister.

Minister Sharon, who was absent last night from the Knesset vote, reported this morning that his absence had the authorization of the Likud faction and had not been a demonstrative protest move.

Minister Sharon said that he had been busy yesterday with discussions about the increases in the food prices. The Likud faction had first told him that there would apparently be no vote of confidence in the government and so he returned to his home in the evening, the Shiqmim Ranch in the Negev, and it was only then that the Knesset Likud faction called him by phone to tell him that there would be a vote. However, they called him back later and told him that his presence was not essential in view of the coalition's guaranteed majority. In spite of this, Sharon said, he was prepared to go to Jerusalem immediately in order to vote for the government.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED IN WAKE OF WEST BANK BOMBINGS

Standard IDF Explosives Used

TA040945 Jerusalem POST in English 4 Jun 80 p 1

[Excerpt] Security investigators have established that the explosive charges that severely injured two West Bank mayors Monday morning were standard IDF issue. While this in itself does not establish that a Jewish organization carried out the terror attacks, it, together with other leads, increases the probability to "near certain," according to a security source.

Investigators who have been working intensively over the past 36 hours believe at this stage that no recognized organizational framework previously known to the public was responsible. They believe that the attackers may have been either an independent cell operating clandestinely within a recognized organization, or else a spontaneous coalescing of several individuals from a common framework.

Gush Emunim Denies Responsibility

TA031718 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Rabbi Moshe Levinger says it was not Gush Emunim that perpetrated the terrorist acts in Hebron, Ramallah and Nabulus yesterday. Interviewed by foreign correspondents, Rabbi Levinger said today that even if it transpires that it was Jews who perpetrated the act, it should not be condemned, since Bassam ash-Shak'ah and Karim Khalaf are PLO men and have induced an anti-Jewish atmosphere in the territories.

Ministers Receive Security Briefings

TA032017 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Security sources estimate that the terrorist organizations will now attempt attacks on senior Israeli personalities to take revenge for the assassination attempts against the West Bank mayors. Our correspondent Yonatan Feder has learned that various personalities including Cabinet ministers received detailed briefing on the precautions they should adopt during their daily activities.

Chief of Staff Reports

TA031549 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] The chief of staff believes that the assassination attempts against the Judaea and Samaria mayors have not created a new situation. Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee that violent acts between Jews and Arabs in Eretz Yisra'el have been going on for 100 years. He reported that it is the police and the security branches and not the IDF that are conducting the investigation into the matter and he can therefore give no details to the committee.

The commander of the central command, Maj Gen Moshe Levi, and the coordinator of government activities in the territories, Maj Gen Dani Mat, said the Judaea and Samaria mayors were given strict security instructions intended to safeguard their well-being.

MK Amnon Lin said the element responsible for planting a charge in Bassam ash-Shak'ah's car is capable of planting charges in Israeli ministers' cars in the future. Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee expressed the fear that yesterday's events will prompt a new round of hostilities.

West Bank Reported Calm

TA040936 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 4 Jun 80

[Excerpt] In Judaea business goes on as usual. In Samaria town shops were also opened, and there is normal activity. However, this morning there was a full commercial strike in Nabulus. About an hour ago, the shopkeepers opened their stores. In the schools, the matriculation exams are being taken as scheduled. In Jericho, two youths who attacked local police last night have been arrested. The incident took place during a power outage. The two assaulted a policeman, injuring him in the face with a stone. Nevertheless, he ran after them and caught them.

Further Details on West Bank

TA031028 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] The situation in East Jerusalem and in the territories is as follows: About 60 percent of the East Jerusalem and old city shops are still closed, even though the police have issued opening orders this morning. So far, about 30 percent of the shops have opened. Some of the shopowners were brought from their homes by virtue of the decree signed by the commander of the central command, but our correspondent Shmu'el Tal says that most of them came by their own initiative. The police are considering the methods to be employed against those merchants who did not heed the decree and hundreds of policemen and border policemen are guarding those who did open their shops from instigators.

This morning the commanding officer of the Jerusalem subdistrict, deputy commander Rahamim Comfort, summoned the head of the East Jerusalem Chamber of Commerce and another senior member of that organization and asked them to do all they can so that life in East Jerusalem proceeds as usual.

This morning stones were thrown at an Israeli car driving through the Jabal al-(Mukabbir) district near the high commissioner's residence in Jerusalem. The windshield was shattered, but no one was hurt. Police have searched the area, but so far no one has been apprehended.

Several walls of old city buildings were painted with slogans this morning. Among other things, they say: We will take revenge for Bassam ash-Shak'ah and Karim Khalaf. In several Judaea and Samaria towns, military government soldiers have been using welding equipment to open the shops' locks.

Situation in East Jerusalem

TA040732 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 4 Jun 80

[Text] In East Jerusalem the police are continuing the wide-scale operation to force shopowners to open their shops. Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal says that the operation seems to be going fine. Right now, the spice and meat markets in the old city are open, as are shops on David Street. Much activity could be discerned outside the city walls, too, and many shops are opening.

Early this morning, more than 100 merchants whose businesses were closed yesterday and could not be found [at home] were rounded up. They were given decrees ordering them to open their shops and police officers explained the significance of these decrees to them.

About an hour ago, the police arrested two east Jerusalem Arab youths who threatened shopowners to make them close their shops.

'Freedom Fighters' Promise Action

TA032045 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1940 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Tel Aviv, 3 June--A man introducing himself as the spokesman of the movement of "Israel's Freedom Fighters--Terror Against Terror," called the ITIM news agency in the evening and announced that his organization is now planning actions in Jerusalem "that will be remembered by the Arabs for a long time to come."

The speaker, a man with a young and determined voice who spoke native-born Hebrew, wanted to emphasize that the "Terror Against Terror" movement supplied explosives to the counter-terror unit that was active in Judaea and Samaria on Monday morning.

"There are about 250 to 300 members in our organization and our aim is to get rid of all the Arabs since they have no place in Eretz Yisra'el," the spokesman said adding that his movement has no connection with Gush Emunim and Rabbi Kahana. "We are ideologically influenced by Rabbi Kahana but have never had any organizational link with him," the youth said.

Answering a question, the spokesman said that the movement of "Israel's Freedom Fighters--Terror Against Terror," was founded a short while after the murder of Yehoshu'ah Saloma [Hebron yeshiva student]. At the beginning of the talk, the youth refused to identify himself, but finally agreed to say that his name is Shlomo and that his movement's representative had also contacted MA'ARIV. In reply to another question, "Shlomo" said he was calling from Netanya.

Jewish Settlements Angered

TA021251 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hevrew 1105 GMT 2 Jun 80

[Excerpt] This afternoon, alert was declared in the Jewish settlements in Samaria for fear of Arab activity in retaliation for the events in Hebron, Ramallah and Nabulus. Our correspondent Ayraham Ben-Melekh went to the settlement of 'Ofra near Ramallah. He says the local residents are furious with the reactions of Peace Now and Shili, saying that these comments prove a hostility toward the settlers even before it has become clear who perpetrated the assaults against the mayors.

Precautionary Measures Suggested

TA021253 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 2 Jun 80

[Text] This afternoon, our alert was declared in the Jewish settlements in Samaria. The settlers have been forbidden to drive in cars alone and to make sure they drive in convoys in the evening. They were also told to be armed at all times.

Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that military government officers did not visit the settlements today and no investigations were carried out there.

Sympathy Strike in Gaza

TA031029 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] There was a strike to express identification with the Judaea and Samaria strikers this morning in the Gaza wholesale market, along the main street and in the municipality. However, life has now returned to normal after the shopowners complied with the military government's request to reopen.

Arab Councils Call Strike

TA040635 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 4 Jun 80

[Text] All the heads of the local Arab councils in Israel have been called on to stage a 1-day strike tomorrow to protest the attempt to assassinate the three West Bank mayors. The decision was made by the local Arab council committee that met in the Galilee village of Rama yesterday. The members of the committee executive--about 20 in number--will come to Nazareth tomorrow to participate in the rally.

Our correspondent Gad Levi reports that an extreme proposal was raised at the convention of the local Arab council leads that all activity by Israeli Arabs come to a standstill to protest the assaults in the West Bank. This proposal was rejected and, to repeat, only the heads of the local councils will strike.

Condition of Wounded Mayors

TA032013 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Improvement has been noted today in the condition of the Ramallah and Nabulus mayors. This was reported from the hospitals where the two are being treated. Nabulus Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah told our correspondent Rafiq Halabi that he accuses the Israeli Government of the assassination attempt. Ash-Shak'ah said he will return to his Nabulus mayor's post. He said he stands more stable and firmer on his land without his two legs.

Ramallah Mayor Not To Resign

TA031428 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Ramallah Mayor Karim Khalaf said that although he was injured yesterday he does not intend to resign and will continue in his position in order to work for Palestinian rights. In an interview in his hospital, Khalaf claimed that Prime Minister Begin's policy deepens the breach between Jews and Arabs. He said whoever the attackers are, they sow hatred in the hearts of our children and grandchildren.

Bethlehem, Gaza Resignations Final

TA032125 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Bethelehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj and Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa rejected the appeal by the Judaea and Samaria municipalities' delegation calling on them to retract their resignations.

Ilyas Frayj also stated he was determined to resign after a meeting with the Judaea and Samaria commander. The Judaea and Samaria commander said he does not accept the letter of resignation. The Bethlehem mayor told our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari that he informed the municipalities' delegation he would return to his post only if the military authorities change their attitude toward the residents. Other West Bank municipal officials have decided not to resign. Our reporter Arye Gus says military administration personnel broke into Ilyas Frayj's shop today and damaged a window.

Bethlehem Mayor Meets Governor

TA031140 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] A meeting is currently underway at the military government building in Bethlehem with the participation of Mayor Ilyas Frayj, in light of his resignation and that of the members of the municipal council today.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that at first the mayor refused to respond to military governor Lieutenant Colonel Ziv's summons to come to the meeting, but the governor said he would send soldiers to bring him. However, the commander of the Judaea district came to the municipal building and Ilyas Frayj joined him and came to the military government building.

Delegations from several Judaea and Samaria towns came to Bethlehem municipality after it was learned last night that the Bethlehem municipal council intended to resign. Our correspondent says that the guests apparently wanted to persuade the Bethlehem officials to continue to fulfill their jobs, but they were too late. Other municipalities in Judaea and Samaria, including Ramallah and Nabulus, have decided not to resign because this might prevent the wounded mayors returning to their jobs.

Morning Press Reaction 3 June

TA031004 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] The Jerusalem POST says that since the gory results of yesterday's well-coordinated terrorist assaults in Hebron, Al-Birah, Ramallah and Nabulus cannot now be undone, the Israeli public as a whole can at this stage only hope that the perpetrators were not Jewish, even if they belong to the lunatic fringe. The newspaper analyzes various possibilities regarding the identity of the assailants, writing that it appears likely that it was done by PLO members, for what other party could stand to gain anything? Surely not Israel. Now that Jews have been contaminated by it, the danger involved in the concept that Israel should have permanent control over the West Bank increases.

HATZOFE writes that together with the police activity to find the whereabouts of the assailants, who must have perpetrated the bobbytrapping after careful planning, it is necessary to take precautionary measures against all expressions of violence. The Jewish settlements in the territories require reinforced defense. One should offer congratulations for the ban on the distribution of two extremist newspapers in Judaea and Samaria. In a tense atmosphere, calming measures should be increased. The more normal daily life that continues to go on as usual the greater the chance that the terror acts will not lead to extraordinarly harsh reactions. In the Jewish population, too, leftist circles should also be restrained and refrain from seeking assailants in only one direction. There is nobody like the PLO to carry out any kind of terror act which serves its murderous ends.

HA'ARETZ says that the government's political path, maintaining that Israel could continue to control the West Bank and the Gaza Strip while basing itself on Jewish settlements, still merits revision. Yet even if the Cabinet continues to insist on this erroneous path, and particularly after this incident, it must control Jewish terrorism with as strong a hand as it employs against Arab terrorism.

DAVAR believes that if indeed the terrorists succeeded in planning such an operation, this marks a worrying improvement in their operational capability. However, the possibility that such an incident was carried out by Israelis exceeds the limits of a security failure and is a much greater cause for concern than the possibility that the assault was perpetrated by Arab terrorists. If the Israeli Cabinet cannot control elements that are supposed to obey state laws and authority, its argument against others' control over the territories is weakened.

In the internal Israeli context, the significance of this deed is even more horrifying. The newspaper sees here a danger of private armies organizing in the underground, yet acting in broad daylight. This is sound proof of the disintegration of social institutions which is the heritage of the Begin Government's reign. The government's loose hold on the reins freezes the blood in one's veins and it is doubtful that the affair has reached an end.

HAMODI'A says that the security forces should be determined and stern in both preventing similar incidents or in making efforts to curb all attempted outbursts in the form of stormy demonstrations. The PLO, more than anyone else, is most interested in all these, and even if the perpetrators have not come from its ranks, those who did the deeds have directly served PLO goals more than anything else.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that the damage done to Israel both in the territories and in the international arena is enormous. This government, split from within, is incapable of extinguishing the fire set, according to the newspaper, by provocative elements which aim at operating not only against the inhabitants of the territories, but also to shake the democratic rule in the country.

Midday Press Comment 3 June

TA031000 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] YEDI'OT AHARONOT expresses shock at the events in the West Bank, but in its opinion any conclusions are premature. According to the newspaper there is a very experienced underground organization behind the crime, whereas the Jews do not have one. Arab terrorists, on the other hand, are wont to strike right and left and they do not spare Arabs either, "so as to keep things alive."

According to MA'ARIV, too, before the blame is assigned to anyone, one ought to wait for the preliminary results of the investigation. The newspaper expresses profound regret and hopes punishments will be inflicted.

Morning Press Reaction 4 June

TA040900 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 Jun 80

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] HATZOFE writes that Egypt has a right to join the chorus of those condemning the assaults 2 days ago, to express its identification with the Arab inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria and to reiterate its support for the Palestinian cause. It seems, however, that Egypt is attempting to take advantage of the recent attacks in Judaea and Samaria to further its goals in the autonomy talks, or to justify their continued postponement, or to exercise pressure on Israel to make concessions. The Israeli authorities are making every effort to discover the perpetrators of the assaults and to put them on trial. Yet it must be made clear to Egypt that it should not try to fish in troubled waters or use the asaaults for maneuvering.

DAVAR writes that if the slogan "Only thus" once again represents the way unofficial factors intend to conduct our struggle, especially when the prime minister and defense minister as well as the foreign minister are former underground commanders, this would mean more than just a periodic cycle. This is a regression into anarchy, a war of all against all. The opinion of the newspaper is that there are enough signs that there are nuclei or armed underground movements in Israel and their disasterous political and social implications must be considered, the events of 2 days ago being the most alarming evidence of their existence so far.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that one may certainly quote examples of the combination of the prime minister's and defense minister's posts in various countries, including Israel at one time, as the prime minister did in his Knesset speech, but the present case involves a prime minister who does not function properly in his own post, according to the paper, and who is unable to guide his Cabinet around frequent instances of malfunctioning.

The Jerusalem POST writes that the Israelis can easily see through the cultivated facade of Western hypocrisy behing the European Community initiative to amend Revolution 242. In truth, the main objective the Europeans have set for themselves is to appease the Arab rejectionists, who control most of the oil.

Incidentally, though, the Europeans would also wish to face down the Americans, who will not, of course, retaliate economically. The newspaper is critical of the prime minister's Knesset speech about the role played by the European states in the Holocaust. The Holocaust, which Mr Begin manages to trivialize whenever he touches upon it, will not transmute the farrago of nonsense, as the paper calls it, on which his policy is founded, into political wisdom.

It is possible that our condition necessitates cuts in both the defense budget and in social and administrative services. If this is the case, we certainly cannot afford the luxury of futile settlements on the rocky hills of Judaea and Samaria, which are very expensive, set the world against us, and constitute a further burden on the weakened defense establishment. [Editorial note: The last paragraph does not appear in text of Jerusalem POST editorial.]

POST REPORTS ISRAEL EXPORTING STEEL TO EGYPT

TA270852 Jerusalem POST in English 27 May 80 p 8

[By Ya'aqov Friedler]

[Text] Haifa--Twenty thousand tons of building steel, manufactured by the Koor-owned Steel City in 'Akko which had remained unsold, have been exported to Egypt, the Jerusalem POST has learned.

Steel City General Manager Uri bar-Ratzon told the POST that his company had sold the surplus steel, for which there had been no ready market in Israel, to a firm of international brokers in Europe for $305 a ton, for a total of just over $6 million.

"We delivered the steel in Haifa port and did not know where it was being shipped to. Our contract was for delivery to the port," Bar-Ratzon said.

The POST learned that the steel was loaded onto a number of chartered freighters and shipped directly to Egypt during the past several weeks.

Bar-Ratzon said his firm sold the steel at a loss, to reduce its stocks. These had grown too large, because sales had slowed down as a result of the big quantities of building steel ordered by importers from abroad last year, to feed the building boom. The steel had arrived towards the end of the year, when building activities were on the decline.

Bar-Ratzon said that though the export was made at a loss, "we would have lost more money by keeping the steel in stock." Meanwhile, existing stocks had been reduced countrywide and Steel City was again operating its full production rate of 140,000 tons per year.

A leading building materials importer, David Adres, told the POST that the $305 per ton price was "good," comparing well to the present world price of $305 to $315 per ton, and he did not think that Steel City had lost on the deal.

He stressed that steel imports had been all but stopped as unprofitable, "because we can't compete with the very high protection Steel City is granted." Therefore, if a building boom would again develop, or if Steel City would again suffer from the technical or labour troubles which had slowed down its production in the past, "there will be a shortage of steel in the country," he said.

Adres claimed that Steel City had been exempted from customs duties, which the importers had to pay, and did not have to pay that in advance. Importers also have to make a 10 percent deposit for six months, unlinked, for all building steel they bring into the country. "We believe that this protection is unjustifiably expensive and that it has made it virtually impossible to import steel any more," he said.

He also said that Steel City enjoyed another advantage, paying only I.S. 250 per ton for the domestic scrap it buys for its raw materials, "whereas scrap now fetches $150 abroad."

INTELLIGENCE CHIEF COMMENTS ON EASTERN FRONT, JORDAN'S ROLE

TA311814 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 31 May 80

[Interview with IDF Chief of Intelligence Branch Maj Gen Yehoshu'a Sagi by Pinhas 'Idan on the occasion of intelligence day; time and place not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] A [Syrian-Iraqi] axis would constitute a possibility for war. Could such an axis be compared to the Egyptian-Syrian axis in the past?

[Answer] I think that the present eastern front, at least as far as its potential is concerned, is stronger than the Syrian-Egyptian potential at the time of the Yom Kippur war. Let me give you some examples.

In the Yom Kippur war the Syrians had about 1,700 tanks and the Egyptians had about 2,000. At present, the eastern front--Syria and Jordan--which is no longer small as far as its military potential is concerned, and Iraq, have about 5,000 tanks. Also, as far as ground forces and other components, such an eastern front has a higher potential than the Egyptian-Syrian front. However, this front also has a certain weak spot: namely, its geographic location. The entire front is situated on the east, whereas the Egyptian-Syrian front in the Yom Kippur war ranged both east and west.

[Question] What would Jordan's role be in such a front?
[Answer] First of all, let us look at some facts. In the past 2 to 3 years Jordan has undergone a sort of metamorphosis in its military structure. Its army no longer has a defensive orientation but enjoys offensive capabilities. It has become entirely mechanized and armoured, supported by mobile artillery and mobile anti-aircraft units. Considering Jordan's topography, [defensively,] this is a waste. However, if theirs is an offensive conception, this deployment is a must.

Jordan has also lost the good excuses it had in the past for not participating in a war waged on its front. Among others, those excuses included the absence of an umbrella of anti-aircraft missiles. Today Jordan has an umbrella of anti-aircraft missiles. All the 14 Hawk [word indistinct] are already in Jordan. [Another excuse was] the absence of a Jordanian air force. Jordan today has a respectable air force of some 100 aircraft of various effective types--and this is not the end of it.

Jordan's rapprochement with Syria and, later, its rapprochement with Iraq and the tightening of their relationships--all these elements put together actually create a Jordanian Army of high potential which, topographically speaking, has a sensitive location as far as the State of Israel is concerned. One should remember that the distance between the Jordan Rift Valley and Jerusalem is still 30 km. Therefore, Jordan enjoys a topographic location providing it with a strategic edge. As a result, Jordan is courted by its radical neighbors--Syria and Iraq. Jordan declared its status as a confrontation state; thus it is provided with military funds. The consequences of this can be seen in the Chieftain tanks deal and the Jordanian Mirage deal. Jordan is the key to many developments in this area.

BRIEFS

SOVIET JEWS MAY EMIGRATION--Over 1,200 Jews arrived in Vienna this month, but about 730 of these have dropped out. The number of emigrants from the Soviet Union increased this month, but a decline is expected next month. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 24 May 80 TA]

TRANSMISSIONS OF PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY DELAYED

AU031615 Rome ANSA in English 1545 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] (ANSA)-Lisbona, June 3--PANA, the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY will not begin transmitting this month as had been originally planned.

Lucio Lara, member of the Politburo of the only (?Angolan) political party said on his return from Dakar today that it would be an adventure.

In Dakar Lara chaired a special meeting of the agency's intergovernmental council.

In the preceding meeting in Lobito in Angola, the council had decided to begin transmissions during the next meeting of the Organization of African Unity [OAU] that will take place in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Lara explained that the postponement was caused by the absence of minimum conditions to guarantee the agency's normal functioning.

He did not disclose when transmissions should begin. Fifty African countries have already backed the agency project.

OAU COMMITTEE CALLS FOR MORE AID FOR SWAPO

LD032028 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1800 GMT 3 Jun 80 EA

[Text] Dar es Salaam--The OAU Liberation Committee has called for more assistance to SWAPO to enable it intensify the struggle to gain independence for Namibia. A committee spokesman, Ndugu (Laban Oyaka), said the committee had also called for more assistance to liberation movements in southern Africa inasmuch as the South African Boer regime was an enemy of the people of Namibia and South Africa. The Liberation Committee had also asked the UN secretary general to intensify efforts to implement the UN plan on the independence of Namibia.

Meanwhile, Tanzania and Brazil have stressed that the greatest responsibility for steps towards Namibian independence rested with the United Nations to assure that country's complete liberation and dignity. In a joint communique issued at the end of a 2-day visit by the Brazilian foreign minister, Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, the two countries condemned all forms of racial discrimination, which they described as a threat to international security and peace. Tanzania and Brazil also expressed their support for people in southern Africa being oppressed in violation of UN resolutions.

The Brazilain minister, who delivered a message from President Joao Figueredo to President Nyere, invited President Nyerere and the foreign minister, Ndugu Mkapa, to visit Brazil. The invitations were accepted and the visits will be arranged through diplomatic channels. The Brazilian minister left Dar es Salaam today for Lusaka, Zambia.

ETHIOPIA

MENGISTU RECEIVES ENVOY OF PDRY'S 'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD

LD031550 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1030 GMT 3 May 80 CA

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and commander in chief of the revolutionary army, this morning received a special message from Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] People's Supreme Assembly.

At a ceremony at the grand palace the special message from Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad was handed to Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam by Comrade Muhammad Salih Muti, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary for external relations of the YSP Central Committee.

Speaking on the occasion, Comrade Muhammad Salih Muti conveyed cordial greetings and best wishes from Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the YSP, the Government of the PDRY and the people of Yemen to Comrade Chairman Mengistu, the Provisional Military Administrative Council and the broad masses of Ethiopia.

Later, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam held wide-ranging talks with Comrade Muhammad Salih Muti on the relations between the two sisterly countries and important international issues. Comrade Mengistu requested Comrade Muhammad Muti to convey the brotherly greetings from himself, the broad masses of Ethiopia and the Provisional Military Administrative Council to Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the YSP and the people and Government of Yemen.

Present on the occasion were Comrade Berhanu Baye, standing committee member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council in charge of foreign affairs; and Comrade Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Batani, PDRY ambassador to socialist Ethiopia.

UGANDA

OBOTE GIVEN 'WARM' RECEPTION AT ENTEBBE AIRPORT

LD301324 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 May 80 EA

[Text] The former president of Uganda and president of the Uganda People's Congress, UPC, Dr Apollo Milton Obote, was this afternoon given a warm welcome by thousands of Ugandans, led by members of the ruling Military Commission, who met him at Entebbe airport.

Dr Obote, who arrived from Mbarara in a Tanzanian Air Force plane, was met at the airport by the chairman of the Military Commission, Mr Paulo Muwanga; the commander of the Uganda liberation army, Maj Gen Tito Okello; the chief of staff, Brig Oyite Okik; the commander of the Tanzanian people's defense forces in Uganda, Maj Gen (Musuguli); the chairman of the UPC National Organizing Committee Dr Luwiriza Kirunda; cabinet ministers and members of the National Consultative Council.

On his way to Kampala, Dr Obote was greeted by thousands of Ugandans, who spontaneously lined the road from Entebbe to Kampala to get a glimpse of the former president. He drove straight to his house in Kololo [in Kampala] where hundreds of relatives, party members, dignitaries and friends gave him another rousing welcome.

Dancing groups from Iganga, Madi, Lira, Kitgum and Gulu were in attendance. A reception was later given in his honor by the UPC National Organizing Committee.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHAIRMAN ADDRESSES RALLY

LD311721 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 31 May 80 EA

[Text] The interim chairman of the Democratic Party [DP] Mr Paul (Kawanga) Semwogerere, says the party leadership has adopted a positive attitude to the Military Commission and security forces so that the country can have free and fair elections.

Addressing thousands and thousands of DP supporters in Kampala's city square, Mr Semwogerere appealed to them not to create obstacles to the party. Don't make it difficult, he declared, to finish the last (?move), avoid divisionalism.

He thanked the members of the Uganda national liberation army and the Tanzanian people's defense forces for maintaining peace during the recent change of leadership. He also thanked the people of Uganda for refraining from (?those moves which might) inflame the situation.

To improve the security situation in the country, Mr Paul Semwogerere appealed to the people of Uganda to resolve to commit themselves to the rule of law. Let us resolve, he declared, that people go to court instead of resorting to guns in solving disputes.

Mr Semwogerere also appealed to the government to look into the circulation of illegal arms and to avoid political persecution. He appealed to all Ugandans to avoid tribal politics based on a superiority or inferiority complex. Mr Semwogerere declared that the DP's Executive Committee has taken a firm stand on this and anyone (?having) tribal tendencies will not be allowed to stand as a DP candidate. He stressed that anyone who wants to stand as a DP candidate must accept its principles.

He assured the members of the army, police and civil servants that if the DP comes to power they will not be victimized. He urged them to continue to be loyal to the country.

He also said that if the DP government wins the forthcoming elections it will invite good people in minor parties to join the government. He said the DP wants to turn back for the suffering of the past and will work for progress.

On the economic policy of the party, Mr Semwogerere said the DP believes in a free society and free enterprise. He said the DP was determined to give the country a clean, humane, good government.

He said the suffering of the country was a result of bad leadership, adding that the DP government will be a servant of the people and not their master. He said the DP will bring harmony and progress in Uganda.

On relations with our neighbors, Mr Semwogerere said the party intends to cultivate harmonious relations with all our neighbors. A DP government will also play an active role in international organizations like the OAU and the UN.

He thanked President Nyerere and all the people of Tanzania for the assistance they gave to liberate Uganda from Amin's fascist rule. He disclosed that President Nyerere last week assured a DP delegation that he will visit Uganda after elections have been held.

On the problems of southern Africa, Mr Semwogerere said a DP government will work for the end of racial discrimination in the republic.

Earlier the treasurer of the DP, Mr (Everest Nyanzi) launched an appeal to raise 100 million shillings to finance its campaign in the forthcoming general elections.

MUWANGA SPEAKS, PROMISES ELECTIONS 1 SEPTEMBER

LD031222 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 3 Jun 80 EA

[Address to Ugandan nation on 3 June by Military Commission Chairman Paulo Muwanga--recorded]

[Text] Fellow countrymen: Today, 3d June 1980, marks the first anniversary of the total liberation of our beloved country from the treacherous and brutal regime of fascist dictator Idi Amin. Third June henceforth will be regarded as an historic day and a turning point in the history of our country. Much has been spoken and written about the atrocities committed by this brute and his henchmen by various people in different parts of the world. Some members of the news media abroad projected this monster as an object of fun. He appeared regularly in the newspapers and on television screens around the world making outrageous utterances which provided a form of entertainment to the people of different nations. As you may remember, both here and abroad, many treated him as a savior and said so. The Ugandan people, however, who bore the brunt of his brutality, saw nothing funny about this monster, nor saw a savior in him.

From the very beginning, 25th January 1971 to the end of his reign, he killed and maimed our people by the thousands. Hundreds of thousands of innocent men, women and children became victims of his savagery and were killed in cold blood. He plundered and squandered the resources of our country. He systematically and with sadistic contempt demolished some of the most cherished institutions in our land which had taken decades of planned and sustained work to construct.

Whereas it is possible for us to reconstruct and rebuild the material damage that he caused, we shall never be able to recover the loss of life that occurred during his brutal rule. Therefore, while the 3d of June should be a day of rejoicing, it is also a day of remembrance for those who are no longer with us.

I want to reflect and share with you the meaning of our liberation, What does it mean for every single Ugandan? First of all, it means hope--hope that we shall rebuild our society that was shattered during the past 9 years. It means hope and belief that democratic traditions and institutions of our people shall be restored. Thirdly, it means hope and determination that we shall be able to live in peace and prosperity and that the rule of law shall prevail. Let the liberation day inspire all our people that through unity we shall be able to achieve all that may now appear to be a formidable task ahead of us.

Countrymen, in the name of the Military Commission, I call upon Ugandans, old and young, to create a society which must be free of all intrigues, free of all greed and free of all tribal rivalries and religious differences.

This is also the time to cast our minds back and think of how this liberation was won. It is still fresh in our minds that at the time of the coup, 1971, there were many leading Ugandans who rejoiced and supported the illegal seizure of power by Amin. There were many sons and daughters of Uganda who from the very beginning took fight [as heard] the dictator. They kept alive the ray of hope. Otherwise, we would still today be in the grip of death and destruction. In this regard, let us pay tribute to this group of brave people who went to Tanzania and devoted long years and efforts to work for the liberation of our country as opposed to many others who merely talked, took sanctuary abroad and did not play any material role in putting an end to the fascist rule of destruction.

The nation also today pays tribute to the Uganda National Liberation Army and its gallant commanders, Maj Gen Tito Okello, Brig David Oyite Ojok and its brave officers and men who fought a long and sustained liberation war until victory was attained.

Today, therefore, is also victory day. Let us further take this opportunity to pay tribute and acknowledge with gratitude the sacrifices made by the people of the United Republic of Tanzania. Let us pay tribute to their illustrious leader, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, his government and their great party, Chama Cha Mapinduzi. We express special gratitude to Tanzania for giving refuge to many thousands of our people who fled Uganda from terror and who were shown great hospitality by the people of Tanzania.

We recognize that without the support of Tanzania given to our people who were in that country, it would not have been possible for us to fight and liberate our country from Amin's dictatorship, which we did. Our friendship with Tanzania is sealed with a bond of blood, shed by Ugandans and Tanzanians in a common cause.

Firstly, let me reaffirm our promise that we shall do our utmost to restore law and order, to ensure protection of our people and their property. I appeal to you all to cooperate with the authorities from (?Mtongwe) [presumably local councils] upwards to stamp out lawlessness from our land. Further, we intend to crack down hard on criminals and antisocial elements and eradicate corruption and magendo [illicit trade].

Secondly, we promise to hold free and fair elections in which all political parties will participate and in which all the people of Uganda shall, through secret ballot, elect people of their choice.

Countrymen, I am glad to report that our two main political parties of Uganda--the Ugandan Peoples Congress [UPC] and the Democratic Party [DP]--have stood firm that all national political parties be allowed to participate in the forthcoming elections. I affirm that in the view of the Military Commission the two main parties of this country have called for elections to be held at the latest by 1 September this year. I, on behalf of the Military Commission, shall do whatever is humanly possible to organize elections by that date.

Fellow countrymen, the task of nation building lies ahead and it is an enormous task. The commission, therefore, promises you nothing but more sweat and toil as the struggle still continues. God bless you all. For God and my country.

LEADERS URGE SPEEDY TRIAL OF AMIN COLLABORATORS

LD041127 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 4 Jun 80 EA

[Text] The Military Commission has asked all members of the National Consultative Council, wherever they may be, to turn up for the council's meeting to complete the readings of the human rights (?court) bill.

In a statement, the commission stressed that it is urgent that this bill be passed and Amin's collaborators, whether in custody or at large, be quickly brought to trial. The statement added that there should be no question of lack of quorum or lateness from today, Wednesday 4 June 1980, onwards.

CHAD

OUEDDEI RESIDENCE HEAVILY DAMAGED BY SHELLING

AB0311438 Paris AFP in English 1400 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Ndjamena 3 June (AFP)--The artillery of Hissein Habre's rebel army has inflicted heavy damage on the residence of Chad President Goukouni Oueddei after, sources said, insurgents tried in vain to cut off supplies to the presidential compound.

It was not clear today whether Mr Goukouni was in the presidential residence during the shelling yesterday, which was watched by thousands of Chadian refugees from across the Chari River in Cameroon. The residence is on the river bank in Ndjamena.

Forces loyal to Mr Goukouni and his allies have been fighting Mr Habre's men in the Chad capital since March 21. Mr Habre was fired from his post as defense minister in April, but does not accept his dismissal.

Refugees on the Cameroonian bank could see Mr Goukouni's men running for shelter from the hail of artillery shells falling on their positions.

Over the weekend Mr Habre's Armed Forces of the North (FAN) published a communique saying they had wiped out 80 men of the Chadian Armed Forces (FAT) of Vice President Abdelkader Kamougue, allies of Mr Goukouni's Popular Armed Forces (FAP). The communique followed a major assault on FAN lines by FAP and FAT troops.

Several civilian eye-witnesses told AFP that FAN units has razed a village to the north of the embattled capital where a fresh group of FAP soldiers had assembled prior to joining Colonel Kamougue to the south-east.

Reliable sources said that over the weekend Mr Habre's men tried unsuccessfully to capture police headquarters in the hope of cutting FAP supply lines. Meanwhile the old river crossings between Ndjamena and Cameroon were interrputed by systematic fire from FAP forces hoping in turn to cut off their enemy's communications.

ZAIRE

FOREIGN MINISTER LECTURES ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION

AB031818 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1010 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Lubumbashi, 3 Jun (AZAP)--The commissioner of state for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Citizen Nguza Karl-i-Bond, yesterday called on the industrial world to control its selfishness and agree to share with the developing countries. This appeal was made at an academic lecture which Citizen Nguza Karl-i-Bond was invited to give by the academic staff of the University of Lubumbashi.

Speaking on the foreign policy of Zaire and on international cooperation, Citizen Nguza discussed three main themes: authenticity, Africa's regional role and openness to the world. He dealt at length with this last topic and tackled the aspects of bilateral and multilateral cooperation. Citizen Nguza discussed Zaire's activities within UNCTAD [Conference on Trade and Development], GATT [General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade], ACP [African, Caribbean and Pacific countries] and within the OAU in order to establish the complementariness and interdependence of nations.

Concerning the North-South dialogue, the commissioner of state said it must mean cooperation and not confrontation for the establishment of a new international economic order that will eliminate the injustices of which the poor countries are still victims.

Citizen Nguza particularly emphasized the need for solidarity among developing countries for collective self-sufficiency, which, he asserted, is an alternative solution to the crucial development problem. The commissioner of state for external affairs cited as an example in this regard the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries, which to him represents a typical model of relations among poor countries.

In addition, Citizen Nguza denounced all forms of external aid with coercive and humiliating strings attached to them and invited the Zairian people to adhere to the national philosophy based on the development of our country.

He supported the view that current Zairian diplomacy should stick to the search for ways of overcoming the economic crisis.

BRIEFS

NEW FACTORIES IN GABON--The president of the Republic of Gabon, El Hadj Omar Bongo, yesterday inaugurated a new factory for the production of sulfuric acid and laid the cornerstone of a uranium-processing factory which will become operational in 1982. This double ceremony which is within the framework of the government's policy of diversification of the economy took place in the town of Mounana, in the province of Hotobouey. [Libreville Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 29 May 80 AB]

IBRD ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE--Kinshasa, 22 May (AZAP)--According to the UNDP the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has agreed to finance two projects in the financial and energy sectors, within the framework of its cooperation with the Executive Council. In the energy sector the IBRD will collect information for a period of 2 years on the supply of drinking water to Matadi, Bukavu and Likasi as well as on improving sanitation in these towns. The cost of the project, which will be $910,000 for the IBRD and 330,000 zaires for the Executive Council, will be undertaken within the framework of the United Nations Development Project. The second project will cost $106,486 and will consist of technical expertise provided by the IBRD to the Office for Management of Public Debt (OGEDEP), for a period of 21 months, in the field of management and administration of public debt. This aid will enable the OGEDEP to improve the quality of its economic research on Zaire's debt capacity. [Kinshasa AZAP in French 1325 GMT 22 May 80 AB]

ZAIRE TIN MINE EXPANSION--Kolwezi, 22 May (AZAP)--An economic bulletin of the Gecamines [General Quarries and Mines Comapny] published recently in Shaba stated that the executive council is presently looking for partners for the modernization of the mines of the Zaire-Tin Company in Manono, Shaba, and for the exploitation of new tin deposits. According to studies carried out by experts, the reserves at Manono are estimated at 12 million cubic meters, with a salvageable average of 1.6 percent. [Kinshasa AZAP in French 1532 GMT 22 May 80 AB]

BENIN

TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE ON ATTEMPT AGAINST SEKOU TOURE

AB031428 Cotonou EHUZU in French 21 May 80 p 1

[Communique of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Beninese People's Revolutionary Party]

[Text] Following the abominable attempt on His Excellency President Ahmed Sekou Toure, president of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Beninese People's Revolutionary Party met on Tuesday, 20 May 1980 upon the summons of its president, our great comrade in arms, Mathieu Kerekou. At the meeting, the Political Bureau made a clear analysis of the international situation and concluded that this disgraceful and cowardly attempt is the work of international imperialism and is designed, with the help of some stateless and degenerated Africans, to destabilize the progressive and revolutionary regimes of the continent.

In view of these criminal provocations, the Political Bureau vehemently condemns this shameful and cowardly attempt made against President Ahmed Sekou Toure and the Guinean revolution; it congratulates President Ahmed Sekou Toure on his safe escape and urges the militant Guinean people to remain united behind their great leader, the supreme leader of the Guinean revolution, the strategist President Ahmed Sekou Toure, in order to hinder all sabotage and all new attack on the gigantic work of national reconstruction. The Political Bureau takes this opportunity to reaffirm to all the Guinean people and to their state party, the Guinean Democratic Party, as well as to their illustrious leader, President Ahmed Sekou Toure, the lasting support of the militant Beninese people and their vanguard party, the Beninese People's Revolutionary Party.

A party and state delegation will go to Guinea to express orally to President Ahmed Sekou Toure the solidarity of the Beninese revolution with the Guinean revolution. Victory, honor and glory to the Guinean people! Long live President Ahmed Sekou Toure! Ready for the revolution! The struggle continues. Cotonou, 20 May 1980. [Issued by] The Political Bureau.

GHANA

PAPER SUGGESTS 'TOKEN TEAM' FOR MOSCOW OLYMPICS

AB031446 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The GHANAIAN TIMES returns to the debate on Ghana's refusal to honor the invitation to the Moscow Olympic games. This follows reports that a team of Ghanaian athletes has gone to Lagos to take part in the competition aimed at preparing Nigerian athletes for the games and that another team will soon leave for Senegal to take part in a similar competition. The TIMES says the Nigerians still have respect for Ghanaian athletes, now aware that, given the necessary preparation, they would not be wanting in Moscow. The paper submits that if Ghanaian sportsmen are not the washouts as the National Olympics Committee would like the country to believe, then it is not too late to make use of a free trip to Moscow by sending at least a token team. It points out that after all, those sportsmen who took part in the previous Olympic games did not win any medals, neither were they tried before any court for their poor performance.

LIMANN DESCRIBES PNP CONGRESS AS SUCCESSFUL

AB031900 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] President Limann said today that last week's national congress of the People's National Party [PNP] was very conclusive and a great success. Speaking to newsmen in Accra on his return from Kumasi, where the congress was held, Dr Limann said everybody was happy about its outcome. He denied that the Central Committee of the PNP was dissolved at the congress.

According to the president, there has never been a Central Committee of the party. Asked why some party men were described as members of the Central Committee of the party, the president explained that there was in existence an interim steering committee. Dr Limann did not think the extra [few words indistinct] of the party would divide its attention.

The congress was adjourned indefinitely last Saturday without electing national officers as expected.

LIBERIA

DOE RECEIVES U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

AB032054 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] The visiting American congressman, William Gray, has said that his mission to Liberia is intended to assess the situation in the country and to determine American assistance to Liberia in its reconstruction program. He said the people and Government of the United States believe that a frank talk between them and the Liberian people and government at this time is necessary and vital for the strengthening of relations between them. Congressman Gray, who led a four-man delegation to Liberia, this morning called on head of state M Sgt Samuel Kayon Doe at the executive mansion. The U.S. mission arrived in Monrovia earlier this week to explore possibilities for strengthening ties between the United States and Liberia.

Head of state Doe expressed gratitude to the American Government for its interest and concern for the masses of the Liberian people and assured members of the delegation that the Liberian Government and people appreciate their assistance. He told the delegation that the Liberian revolution was aimed at eliminating corruption, injustices and nepotism from the society and to bring happiness and a better living standard to the masses of the people. Master Sergeant Doe later took members of the American delegation on a tour of the Barclay Training Center in order for them to see what he described as the deplorable living conditions there.

Meanwhile, the American delegation is to be holding talks with Liberian Government officials, including the ministers for foreign affairs, justice, defense, finance, as well as planning and economic affairs. Other officials are the acting chairman of the national [word indistinct] commission and president of the Liberian Bank for Development and Investment.

PRC ASSAILS USE OF OAU, ECOWAS AGAINST NEW REGIME

AB032011 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] The cochairman of the People's Redemption Council, Maj Gen Thomas Weh Syen, has condemned West African countries that are using the OAU and ECOWAS as a frontline in the attempt to sabotage the Liberian revolution. General Weh Syen said the OAU and ECOWAS were not organized to glorify individuals but to seek the interest of member states.

In a statement issued to newsmen at the capital building in Monrovia yesterday, General Weh Syen said the people of any country have the right to change their leadership in the supreme interest of the masses. He said Liberians should be left alone to solve their internal problems. Nigeria, Sierra Leone and the Ivory Coast recently undermined Liberia's attendance at the fifth ECOWAS summit in Lome, Togo, and they [word indistinct] cause complications that rejected Liberia at the meeting.

DOE GIVES REASSURANCES TO BUSINESSMEN ON INVESTMENT

AB302030 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1755 GMT 30 May 80

[Text] The Liberian Government today declared that because of its policy, honesty and hard work, it would not take over private businesses in the country. The government also said it intends to strictly abide by all agreements and commitments to foreign partners in progress and wished to expand its established friendly relations. Liberian head of state, M Sgt Samuel Kayon Doe, came out with the statement at the 1-day investment conference sponsored by the National Investment Commission in Monrovia. The investment conference, with the theme: Questions on Foreign Investments in the Present Revolution, is aimed at reducing fears of foreign investment and giving the position of investment in the new Liberia.

Sergeant Doe says the Liberian Government is prepared to provide various credit facilities and other legitimate incentives to investors and hoped they would take advantage of the opportunity and contribute to the economic advancement of Liberia. The head of state also hoped investors would come out with pragmatic and workable suggestions at the conference that would constitute mutual benefit between them and government. He later urged foreign investors to cooperate with Liberian businesses. Head of state Doe told the businessmen to use the conference to freely discuss how they can play an effective role in the Liberian revolution.

Economic observers in Monrovia believe the renewed assurances to investors have dispelled the dark social clouds that hung over the Liberian economy and served as encouraging factors for big businesses to invest in Liberia under government favorable climate [as heard].

Earlier, the acting chairman of the Investment Commission, Professor (D. Tugman Nixon), said the commission had worked out a program through which small and medium Liberian businesses would be given financial, technical and managerial assistance to improve their business. He said 14 projects that would generate nearly $700 million into our economy and provide about 3,469 job facilities for Liberians had been confirmed with some investors. He said the economic situation of the country would greatly improve because of the influx of investors in the country after the April 12 revolution.

MINISTER OFFERS FULL PROTECTION TO FOREIGNERS

AB040751 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 4 Jun 80

[Text] Citizens from neighboring African countries have been assured of the government's full protection in Liberia despite hostile attitudes shown by some ECOWAS member states toward the government and the People's Redemption Council. The assurances were given by the Liberian minister of planning and economic affairs, Dr Togba Nah-Tipoteh, in an exclusive interview over the weekend with the managing editor of the American-based INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER magazine following rumors of possible expulsion of citizens from some sister African countries. Dr Tipoteh declared: There is not a grain of truth to such rumors, adding: In fact our government is going an extra mile with respect to assuring citizens from neighboring countries. [as heard] Continuing, Dr Tipoteh said: Now citizens have fuller opportunities to participate in the Liberian economy and must not view themselves as foreigners but as fellow brothers and sisters.

Talking on the status of missionaries in Liberia, Dr Tipoteh said missionaries including members of the Methodist Church in Liberia have the right to move about their daily activities freely. He added that if anything is suspected or if any one person among them does anything wrong, it will be treated on individual basis. Minister Tipoteh asserted that concern about missionaries in Liberia came about as a result of the political ambition of former Vice President Bennie Warner of the United Methodist Church who indicated opposition to the PRC government headed by M Sgt Samuel Doe. Dr Tipoteh said no missionary in Liberia should have fear of government retaliation because of Bennie Warner's actions.

NIGERIA

STRIKE PARALYZES RAILWAY SERVICE NATIONWIDE

AB031944 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Railway services in the country have been paralyzed following the industrial action embarked upon by junior workers of the Railways Corporation. The action, which started last midnight, is to back up the workers demand for implementation of the recommendations of the incomes committee on their wages.

At the Idaw terminus of the corporation in Lagos, the workers, who are mostly from the traffic division, called for the removal of some senior staff who they allege hindered the implementation of their demands.

In Kaduna a spokesman for the workers said that the action would continue until their demands were met. But in an interview with our correspondent in Lagos, the corporation's public relations officer said 90 percent of the workers demands were approved by the management at a meeting last Thursday. He added that only the demands of skilled and semi-skilled workers were being looked into by the management and the Ministry of Transport. The incomes committee was set up last year by the corporation's management to review the conditions of service of its staff all over the federation.

CHOLERA REPORTS SPUR IMMUNIZATION CAMPAIGN

AB040718 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 4 Jun 80

[Text] More than 500,000 persons have been immunized against cholera since cases of the disease were reported in Anambra State. The commissioner for health, Dr Edwin (Wudike) announced this at a news conference in Enugu. He said that the state government has spent over 150,000 naira on the purchase of cholera vaccines. Dr (Wudike) added that the vaccines already acquired were not enough for the execution of the immunization program. The commissioner appealed to the federal government to make the drug available so that his ministry could obtain more for the immunization exercise. He advised members of the public to observe basic rules of hygiene by boiling and filtering drinking water and by reporting suspected cases of cholera to health centers.

SENEGAL

DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA'S IENG THIRITH ARRIVES

AB031855 Paris AFP in French 1555 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Dakar, 3 Jun 80 (AFP)--Madam Ieng Thirith, minister of social affairs of Democratic Kampuchea, started a 5-day official visit to Senegal on Tuesday.

Madam Thirith declared on her arrival that the aim of her visit was to express the gratitude of the government and people of Kampuchea to President Senghor, the government and people of Senegal for their remarkable support and solidarity for the just struggle of the people of Kampuchea. On this issue, she has revealed that Senegal duly voted for the UN resolution calling for the total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea.

Finally, the Kampuchean minister denounced the maneuvers of the leaders of Hanoi aimed at integrating Kampuchea into an Indochinese federation and at exterminating more than 5 million Kampucheans.

MINISTER EXPECTED TO NEGOTIATE MEMBERSHIP IN OMVG

AB032058 Paris AFP in French 1753 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] Dakar, 3 June (AFP)--Mr Adrien Senghor, the Senegalese minister of state for equipment, left Dakar on Tuesday for Conakry, where he is expected to negotiate with Guinean authorities on the membership of their country in the OMVG (Gambia River Valley Development Organization).

The OMVG, which currently comprises Gambia and Senegal, has as its purpose the construction of dams. Therefore the participation of Guinea is necessary, as that is where the river starts. Guinea has agreed in principle to join the organization, but the country's authorities must confirm this. Guinea has already participated in an OMVG Ministerial Council meeting as an observer.

Mr Adrien Senghor will spend a day in Guinea before returning to Dakar.

BRIEFS

BRAZILIAN LOAN TO GHANA--Ghana and Brazil today signed a loan agreement under which Ghana will receive $60 million from Brazil. The loan, from the Bank of Brazil, will be utilized by the Bank for Housing and Construction. It will be used for the establishment of seven brick and tile projects, a floor and wall tile project and a lime factory. The loan, to be repaid over 10 years, carries an interest rate of 7.5 percent. [Excerpt] [Accra Domestic Service in English 2245 GMT 2 Jun 80 LD]

NEW GUNBOATS FOR NIGERIA--The Eastern Naval Command based in the Cross River State is to be equipped with new and faster gunboats to enable it carry out its services effectively. This was announced by the outgoing commandant for the unit when he paid a farewell visit to the deputy governor, Dr Matthias Ofobuche. [Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 2100 GMT 29 May 80 AB]

BRICK FACTORY IN NIGER--The president of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, Col Seyni Kountche, yesterday morning visited the worksite for the new Niger Ceramics Company brick factory. This new brick factory, which cost nearly 1.7 billion CFA francs and is being jointly financed by the Federal Republic of Germany and Niger, will start functioning in April 1981. It will be run on fuel oil and it is expected to produce 110 tons of bricks per day instead of the present production of 35-40 tons per day. It is also expected to offer additional job opportunities. [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 23 May 80 p 3 AB]

NAMIBIA

JOHANNESBURG REPORTS DEATH OF 15 TERRORISTS IN WEEK

LD301250 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 May 80 CA

[Text] South African and South-West African security forces have killed 15 terrorists in the past week. A statement issued by South-West Africa Command said a patrol following tracks last Saturday came upon a group of terrorists who fled. Four of them were shot dead and arms and ammunition were captured. In another incident six terrorists were killed. Five others died in an ambush on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the commander of Western Air Command, Col (Theo de Menich), announced at a news conference in Windhoek this afternoon that the military air base at Ondangua in Ovambo came under mortar fire on the night of May 4th. The security forces returned the fire and stopped the bombardment. Col (De Menich) said that no security force personnel had been hurt and no aircraft had been damaged.

ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

LD031147 Pretoria INFORMATION SERVICE OF SOUTH AFRICA in English 1023 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Text] The establishment of a minister's council with executive powers in South-West Africa/Namibia would under no circumstances change the international status of the territory, the administrator-general, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, said in Windhoek on June 2, 1980.

Speaking at the first of regular monthly press conferences to be held by him, Dr Viljoen said assurances had been given to the five Western powers and the United Nations Secretariat that the administrator-general remained the contact point in the territory for international negotiations.

South Africa would maintain its mandate over South-West Africa/Namibia as far as foreign affairs, the overall security situation and railways were concerned, he said.

Even after the transfer of indigenous units of the security forces to the South-West Africa/Namibian authorities, the South African defense force and police would continue to play a major role in the territory.

This move to allocate executive powers to a minister's council does not at all change the international status of South-West Africa/Namibia.

The South African Cabinet remains eventually responsible for South-West Africa/Namibia as far as the world at large is concerned. The South African Government and the administrator-general retained a formal and final veto.

The administrator-general was empowered to intervene at any given moment in the legislative and executive process within the territory, Dr Viljoen said. A minister's council did not mean that all legislative and executive powers had (?been) ceded by South Africa.

He said there were still any number of steps which could be taken constitutionally towards more complete autonomy in the territory.

The convention can, for instance, be established that the administrator-general will approve legislation passed by the National Assembly without exercising a veto--I think this would be a next phase.

A convention could also be legalised that the administrator-general would not veto executive decisions of the minister's council.

It was also conceivable that additional functions of government, such as the administration of railways and the administration of South-West African/Namibian units of the security forces, could be passed on from the South African Government to the administrator-general.

There are still several steps which could be taken to heighten the sense of autonomy, he said.

The aim is to achieve something comparable to what, in British colonial history, was called responsible government, he said.

Where the controlling country still exercised a certain amount of control, but where all purely internal functions--on both legislative and executive levels--are exercised by bodies elected by the population.

Dr Viljoen said control of the South-West Africa/Namibian division of the Supreme Court was currently being considered for transfer to the South-West Africa/Namibian authorities. The Supreme Court here was at present still controlled by the South African minister of justice.

Replying to a question, Dr Viljoen said the Western five have more than once objected to the current constitutional moves in the territory. It had been emphasized, however, that they would not constitute UDI [unilateral declaration of independence].

We had the impression that the Western powers were not very happy about it, but that they have accepted it," Dr Viljoen said.

If South-West Africa/Namibia had to wait until there was certainty about a UN-supervised election in the territory, all internal constitutional development would long ago have ground to a halt, Dr Viljoen said.

But I wish to emphasize that the moment a UN-supervised election is announced, all options will immediately be open again and those elected in such an election will have to decide from scratch what the constitution of an independent South-West Africa/Namibia will be.

It was hoped that the groundwork being done in the National Assembly, the minister's council and in the ethnic representative authorities would aid a constituent assembly elected in a UN-supervised poll, to decide on the future.

SOUTH AFRICA

PRODUCTION UNINTERRUPTED AT BOMBED SASOL PLANT

LD031020 Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 3 Jun 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] It's ironic that the explosions at the SASOL plant occurred at the same time as the statement by Zimbabwe that all its trade ties were dependent on South Africa.

This statement about economic interdependence reflects the true situation in southern Africa. Anyone trying to sabotage a development in South Africa, such as the SASOL plant, is damaging the interests of not only South Africa but those of the whole of southern Africa.

Southern Africa operates as an economic unit, not as 10 separate economic units.

When damage is caused to one of the units all will suffer, and if damage is caused to the nucleus of all the economic activity in the region, South Africa, then the suffering of the others will be infinitely worse. To underline the economic interdependence of southern Africa, Bophuthatswana recently announced that it would invest in SASOL. The SASOL explosions are damaging but not disruptive. To underscore this there has been in interruption of production at the SASOL plant.

GOVERNMENT TO UPGRADE COLORED EDUCATION RAPIDLY

LD291240 Pretoria INFORMATION SERVICE OF SOUTH AFRICA in English 1000 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] The government was to take steps which would remove most of the points of grievance in coloured education by the end of the year, the minister of coloured relations, Mr Marais Steyn, announced in the House of Assembly on 28 May.

"As a result of the boycotts, we have decided to step up the pace on some projects we were planning for correcting legitimate grievances", he said during the committee stage of the debate on his vote.

He announced that: "Approval had been obtained on 28 May from the treasury to increase the special grant for books from 1.4 million rand to 2.1 million rand, which would wipe out the backlog in book supply by the end of this year.

"The school building programme was to be stepped up considerably in order to wipe out the classroom backlog and in addition to build school halls at each existing school.

"New schools would in future be delivered complete with halls and sport facilities by the department of public works.

"Headmasters would be entitled to immediately order repairs of up to 300 rand from private contractors without prior approval and that repairs of up to 30,000 rand would be processed with sufficient speed that the department expected to complete the entire backlog on the repairs to damaged schools by the end of this year.

"We did not need boycotts to tell us what needed doing," Mr Steyn said. "We have a conscience and also an understanding of what is required.

"These plans are all part of the government's policy and we would have implemented them in any case. As a result of the boycotts we decided to stimulate certain projects," Mr Steyn said.

The situation that had developed in coloured education was not the making of the National Party government. It was an historical heritage with a long history of discrimination.

Coloured education had been neglected in the past "because we all accepted that it needn't be of the same standard as that of whites."

"This is no longer an argument today and we are committed to see that equal-standard education for all becomes a reality."

ZAMBIA

FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS THAILAND EN ROUTE FROM SRV

For reportage on the recent visit in Thailand by Foreign Minister Wilson Mofya Chakulya, see the Thailand section of the 3 June 1980 Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE RETURNS FROM FRONTLINE SUMMIT ON NAMIBIA

LD031450 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 3 Jun 80 CA

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, returned to Salisbury last night after attending a one-day summit conference of the Frontline States which was held in Lusaka to discuss the future of Namibia. Speaking to newsmen at Salisbury airport on his return, Comrade Mugabe said the summit meeting was a sequel to the recent Southern African Economic Conference that was also held in the Zambian capital. The prime minister said the leaders of the Frontline States discussed the impasse that exists over the future of Namibia. He said although the frontline leaders have always favored a negotiated solution, there are two alternatives to the situation, one the continuing of war until final victory, and secondly, peaceful discussions to being about a peaceful settlement to the situation.

Comrade Mugabe also said that the leaders of the Frontline States unanimously agreed that a peaceful solution must be found, and in this light, support must be given to Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978. The prime minister said that the chairman of the Frontline States will approach the United Nations secretary general, Dr Waldheim, with regard to the implementation of the Security Council resolution on Namibia.

ROBERT MUGABE INTERVIEWED ON UNINTEGRATED GUERRILLAS

LD301244 London BBC Television Network in English 2145 GMT 29 May 80

["Newsnight" program, presented by David Lomax: Interview with Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe by John Humphreys, introduced by Ian Smith--date and place not given]

[Text] [Smith] There are two major security problems that the new government has so far failed to solve: What to do with the 20,000-30,000 former guerrillas and what to do about South Africa. The guerrilla problem is getting serious. Integration between Robert Mugabe's forces and Joshua Nkomo's virtually collapsed after Rhodesian instructors and the guerrilla commanders fell out. Five hundred of the guerrillas refused to take orders and were put in Jankers, where they still are. But the real problems are the assembly camps around the country where most of the guerrillas gathered during the elections. They were happy enough when they heard that the Patriotic Front had won. What they were not to know was that 3 months later they would be still confined to the assembly camps. This is Robert Mugabe's first major problem. [begin recording]

[Mugabe] They have to be integrated. I'm unhappy, as I've said before, that the pace has been so slow, and I want the commanders, the joint commanders, that is, to get cracking and get these people integrated as quickly as possible, before the end of the year. We must do that. They get frustrated and sooner or later we'll have a security situation of an extreme nature on our hands and we must avoid that.

[Humphreys] How do you mean, an extreme situation?

[Mugabe] Well, they can get out of control and they would be entitled, obviously, to become insubordinate if we continue to keep them there. There is absolutely no reason why they must remain at the assembly points, as if we had decided to isolate them, quarantine them as unwanted creatures. It is not a happy feeling.

[Humphreys] You don't feel you are being obstructed?

[Mugabe] No, not just yet. But I'm beginning to feel that something is wrong somewhere, that perhaps the joint command isn't that harmonious, which makes for a delay in the integration process.

[Humphreys] It's deeply worrying over the long term, isn't it?

[Mugabe] Yes, sure it is. It's bound to be. [end recording]